

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Was Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary of the United Nations, really a post-war hero? Paul Johnson argues in *Spectrum* that he was not, that he was wrong about Suez, wrong about the Soviet invasion of Hungary - "which he treated as a tremendous distraction" - and wrong about the Congo. Has Thatcherism been applied to law and order? Peter Evans looks at the main changes in British law in recent years and the Conservative changes in the law relating to crime. Sazy Menkes looks at the growing fashion for middle-class mail order; and Roger Scruton reflects on a recent visit to New York.

Fire bomb attack on family

In a spate of sectarian attacks in Belfast a young couple and their daughter aged four were fire-bombed from their home and a public house was bombed. Mr Mervyn McEwan, a Protestant, was found beaten to death in playing fields. Page 2

Reagan fear of 'second Cuba'

In his personal address to Congress on Wednesday, President Reagan will say that support of the Administration's policy on Central America, the US's "front line" is a moral duty to avoid a "second Cuba". Page 5

Huckfield out

Mr Leslie Huckfield, the left-wing Labour MP, who decided two years ago not to seek re-election for his Nuneham seat, was last night outvoted to remain as candidate for the safer re-drawn Wigan constituency, delegates choosing Mr Roger Stott, MP for neighbouring Westhoughton. Page 5

Bank withdraws

Midland Bank has decided not to extend its branch network nationwide to cater separately for individual and corporate customers because of the high cost of implementing the strategy. Page 15

Turkey relents

Turkey's ruling military council has lifted the 1980 ban on political activities, paving the way for a general election promised for this autumn or early next year. Page 5

Shopping buy

Safeway, the American stores chain, is reported to be near to a £35m takeover of Key Markets, the supermarket group. The deal would produce a combined group of 200 stores. Page 15

Firemen hesitate

The threat of a series of one-day firemen's strikes this week receded after it became apparent that enthusiasm for industrial action was waning. Page 2

Same chair

The accomplice of convicted killer John Louis Evans is to go to the same electric chair in Alabama that took 10 minutes to execute Evans on Friday. Page 6

Pole caught

Jozef Piniar, a fugitive Solidarity leader, has been arrested. It is a big blow to the underground a week before the mass demonstrations planned for May Day. Page 7

Maxwell move

Robert Maxwell, the chairman of Oxford United Football Club, said he would call off his proposed merger with Reading if the club's future could be guaranteed for five years. Page 17

Computer Horizons tomorrow examines the impact of information technology on Westminster, takes a flying visit to the Hanover Fair, explains the wonders of image processing and takes a look at the old town hall and the new bring-and-buy.

Leader, page 11
Letters: On World Peace Council, from Mr Tony Smythe, and Mr Ray Whitely, MP; party manifestos, from Lord Alport. Leading articles: BL, Portuguese election; Russia and Afghanistan. Features, pages 8-10
Bernard Levin on Denis Healey's dilemma: *The Times* Profile of Iris Murdoch; *Spectrum* looks at tennis technique. Obituary, page 12
Earl Hines, Buster Crabbe

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BL stewards may defy leaders over strike vote

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A return to work by the 5,000 assembly workers at BL's Cowley plant could rest on whether shop stewards decide today to make any recommendation on the peace formula to be put to a mass meeting tomorrow.

BL officials were confident that the formula would be accepted but a stewards' recommendation to throw it out could influence the workers.

It is thought the stewards may try to make a recommendation, in apparent contravention of the agreement reached between national union officials and BL management on Saturday morning after three negotiating sessions spanning 39 hours. The formula was agreed only half an hour before BL's deadline for sending out dismissal letters to the strikers.

It was proposed that the formula would be put to the mass meeting factually and without recommendation, but Mr David Buckle, Oxford district secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said last night that he did not believe the stewards were barred from making a recommendation.

Under the terms of the understanding, Mr Buckle and the other full-time union officials would address the meetings today and tomorrow without indicating approval or rejection. If the mass meeting decides to end the four-week strike, the night shift is expected to return tomorrow with the plant becoming fully operational on Wednesday.

A national union official involved in the negotiations said union leaders would be extremely angry if the stewards made a recommendation. There was a specific point made during the negotiations that while there could be consultation with the stewards, it would be inappropriate for them to put any recommendation to the meeting.

Mr Buckle said: "The stewards will be asked at their meeting to go along with the formula, but if they want to pass a resolution one way or another, that is up to them. I do not think Leyland management would be too happy if the stewards backed the formula but failed to make a recommendation."

He predicted that the mass meeting would be "difficult, to put it mildly" and in the present "highly charged" atmosphere.

he could not predict which way the vote would go.

Under the terms of the formula, a four-week "cooling off" period will allow time for negotiation on the introduction of productivity measures and the ending of the six minutes a day "washing time" which has been at the centre of the dispute.

At the same time, a four-man committee will examine industrial relations at the Cowley assembly plant. That team will comprise two BL managers and two union officials, all from outside the Cowley area, and will consider "any specific complaint either party may have about the other".

BL has agreed to give Cowley assembly plant status after agreement on productivity proposals and the ending of washing time, which would increase the weekly bonus ceiling from £18.75 to £20. Union officials believe they have secured two real gains from the management in a formula which, on the face of it, appears to be a victory for the management's determination to introduce "bell to bell" working at the plant.

The unions claim that the old style of management by imposition will be replaced by a regime which seeks to introduce changes by agreement.

The company believes it has come out of the dispute with its position very little changed and the prospect of an early end to the washing time practice.

Some of the strikers are expected to try to return to work this morning but although BL has said that the gates at Cowley will be open, the unions are planning to mount a picket to prevent production resuming. The strike has led to the loss of about 17,000 cars with a showroom value of £90m.

Leading article, page 11

Two aims of Shultz Middle East tour

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

As the United States received back the bodies of those who died in last week's Beirut Embassy bomb blast, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, left for the Middle East in a renewed US effort to bring peace and stability to that troubled region.

The main purpose of his journey is to press for a speedy withdrawal of Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian Liberation Organisation forces from Lebanon. But it is also designed to reinforce American determination to press ahead with President Reagan's peace initiative despite the body blow it received earlier this month after the refusal of King Hussein of Jordan to participate in the talks on Palestinian autonomy.

Mr Shultz sounded a deliberately upbeat note on the eve of his departure. In an interview with the *Washington Post* he said there were signs that Arab leaders may be taking a second look at the Reagan peace plan.

"It does seem to me," he told the newspaper, "that there is a certain shock that has taken hold, as I read the cable from various Arab capitals, in which people are saying to themselves: are we really going to pass this up? Maybe we can't afford to do that."

He insisted that the President's plan was not dead despite King Hussein's refusal to join the talks with the US, Israel, and Egypt. "I think it is as well for them (the Arabs) to talk among themselves and see if they are not missing the boat."

Mr Shultz noted that US attempts to bring the Jordanian monarch into the peace process had almost succeeded but had been undercut by radical elements in the PLO. He made it clear that he regarded a withdrawal of the forces from the Lebanon as a first step towards a wider peace agreement in the Middle East, and he seemed reasonably confident that such an agreement was near at hand.

Mr Shultz and President Reagan were present at a moving and sombre ceremony at an Air Force base outside Washington to mark the return of the bodies of 16 of the 17 Americans killed in the Embassy blast. A military guard of honour stood at attention in front of the flag-draped coffins and a band played "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" as the President walked past.

Mabarak challenge, page 6

Desert troops forbidden to wear medal

From Christopher Walker, El Gurah, Sinai

Angry protests have been lodged with the Ministry of Defence in London over the Government's refusal to permit British soldiers serving with the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai from wearing the elegant campaign medal awarded to all those with over 90 days' service monitoring the peace between Israel and Egypt.

Resentment over the ban has come to a head because of today's full-dress parade here to celebrate the controversial force's first anniversary. The British, along with the Australians, New Zealanders and French, will be the only troops among the 11 nationalities in the MFO unable to wear bronze replicas of Picasso's dove of peace.

"The frustrating part is having to watch men from places like Colombia and Italy standing with these pinnacles on their chests, while we have to keep ours locked away," an English lieutenant explained. "It seems the only place we are allowed to wear it is in bed."

The British are barred from wearing the medal because the MFO, unlike the United Nations, is not recognized as a sovereign state. Of the three other Commonwealth countries in the force, Australia and New

Zealand are seeking permission to waive the rule, while the Fijian battalion have decided to ignore it.

Officers with the 38-strong British contingent are openly critical over the Government's decision, which they say they have been ordered not to discuss with the press.

Speaking at the airbase which once saw the launch of the Entebbe raid, and is now the MFO headquarters, garrison Sergeant Major Philip Ward told *The Times*: "The men are very upset about this decision. Things are made worse because the British Army only produces a very limited number of

From Michael Binyon Bonn

German historians and newspapers have greeted with considerable scepticism the announcement that Hitler's diaries have been discovered, echoing the view in Britain that this is either the forgery of the century or necessitates the rewriting of the history of the Nazi period.

Professor Karl-Dieter Bracher of Bonn University, one of the most respected historians of the period, expressed "great scepticism" and said a proper evaluation of the find and its contents was only possible after a careful scientific examination.

Professor Maria Broszat, director of the Munich Institute for Contemporary History, also cast doubt on the documents' authenticity, declaring, however, that Lord Dacre, who expressed conviction in *The Times* on Saturday that the diaries were genuine, was a very careful man who took great care with his sources.

Lord Dacre is giving a press conference in Hamburg today which will attract worldwide attention.

Stern's announcement on Friday has provoked astonishment and enormous interest here. The magazine has brought forward the publication of the issue revealing the diaries, and printed a record edition over the weekend of more than two million copies.

German papers and reports have had to rely so far for details on the extracts already published in *The Sunday Times*, retranslating quotations from the diaries back into German. Newspapers publishing pictures of the Nazi leaders mentioned in *The Sunday Times* extracts, have also gone into detail about the way the documents were discovered and acquired by Stern.

Herr Nicolaus von Below, Hitler's former air force adjutant, told the mass circulation *Bild am Sonntag* that the



Lord Dacre off to Hamburg from Heathrow yesterday. "I do believe... the diaries are genuine," page 2

diaries were just another of the many untrue "fairytale" stories circulating since the end of the war.

"We often used to eat at about three or four o'clock in the night, and only after that did Hitler go to bed," Herr von Below who was constantly in

Hitler's entourage from 1937 until the end of the war told the paper. "So he had no time to write anything. It's all a complete lie."

The paper also quoted Professor Werner Maser, who has written books on Hitler, saying that a forgery factory existed in

Hitler's secret diaries

Germans greet find with great scepticism



The Hitler signature on the diaries

Potsdam, East Germany, to turn out Hitler documents, letters and pictures which were then sold to the West for valuable Western currency. Professor Maser took part in one of the television debates on the diaries at the weekend.

Stern has rejected his statements, saying he had discredited himself as a scientific historian. He had already offered his story of the East German forgery factory to the magazine, but had been unable to back up his claims with any proof or real indication of its existence.

Former General Hans Baur, now aged 86, who was Hitler's chief pilot and recalled Hitler's distress at hearing of the loss of his diaries, stood by his conviction that they are genuine.

He told *Bild am Sonntag*: "When I told Hitler of the crash of the aircraft which should have taken the documents to Salzburg, he reacted very strongly. He said: 'It would have to happen to that aircraft in which I placed the records of all my actions.'"

Stern is to publish the diaries in three batches over the next 18 months. The extracts in *The Sunday Times* yesterday showed that the 60 handwritten volumes cover Hitler's private life, especially his relations with Eva Braun, his mistress.

He was bitterly contemptuous of some of his most powerful colleagues. Of Himmler, head of the SS, he said in April 1935: "I don't need any kind of investigations by Himmler. He is also snooping on E (Eva)." In an entry four years later he said: "I have threatened to send him before a party court. I shall show this deceitful little animal breeder, this unfathomable little penny-pincher with his lust for power, what I am really like."

In 1943 Hitler is complaining about the level of guerrilla activity in occupied territory, which he says was Himmler's job to stamp out. "But he lives in another world, and it seems to me that he exists in an ancient Germanic world in the heavens."

Hitler complains also of Goebbels's notorious affair with the Czech actress Lida Barrova: "The little Dr Goebbels is up to his old tricks again with women." He asks at one point: "Where are Goebbels's miraculous aircraft?" And in 1934, at the time of the purge of the brownshirts, he accused Ernst Roehm, the brownshirt leader, of lying to him. "I gave him the opportunity to take the noble way out but he was too cowardly to do even that." He was shot on Hitler's orders.

The last entry is undated and was written only a fortnight before his suicide. As the Russians closed in on Berlin, Hitler said: "The long-awaited offensive has begun. May the Lord God stand by us."

But, equally, the role of deputy prime minister would not be the same as the role of Mr Whitelaw to Mrs Thatcher and I do not mean that offensively." Mr Steel added: "There would be a quite different relationship and they would be sustained by two political parties. Therefore the position of deputy prime minister would be very much more powerful than in the present government."

He denied that he had been a party to any "shoddy deals". Confirming that there had already been vague hints from the Labour and Conservative parties about a separate collaboration agreement with the Liberals in the event of a "hung" Parliament, Mr Steel made clear that the Alliance would not be split: "There is no agreement possible with the Liberal party on its own, or the SDP on its own."

Letters, page 11

Steel says he would bow to Jenkins

By George Clark

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberals, confirmed yesterday that, in private talks with Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democratic Party, the SDP Alliance will go into the election with Mr Steel as leader of the joint campaign. Mr Jenkins as the prime minister designate should the Alliance be called on to form a government.

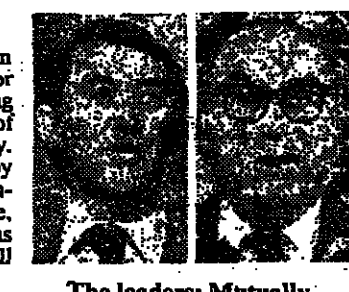
On the basis of the present opinion polls, this would seem an unlikely prospect and it means that Mr Steel will emerge as the most dominant figure in the election, to the satisfaction of many Liberals who have been disappointed with Mr Jenkins' lack-lustre performance at public meetings in recent months.

Mr Steel is seen as a much more aggressive politician, with an appeal to younger voters which Mr Jenkins cannot rival. But the "arrangement" mutu-

ally agreed by the two leaders in private still has to come up for endorsement by a joint meeting of Liberal and SDP members of Parliament on Wednesday. Yesterday, when interviewed by Mr Brian Walden the Independent Television programme, *Weekend World*, Mr Steel was confident that the MPs will agree.

But it may not rest entirely with them. Both parties pride themselves on their democratic nature and there could be demands from the membership for a say in the matter. For instance, many Liberals think the Alliance should go into the election with Mr Steel as prime minister designate.

Mr Steel is regarded by them as the more dynamic leader, and public opinion polls have indicated that he is a popular leader. He will be chairman of the joint campaign committee, and he emphasized yesterday



The leaders: Mutually agreed arrangement

that no firm declaration about a prime minister designate would be made until the election period begins.

In running the campaign someone had to take the final decisions, and that someone would be him (Mr Steel). "Obviously, if we were successful in forming a government, one person ought to be prime minister and I have never made any secret of my view that it should be Roy Jenkins."

Kreisky's majority in danger

Vienna (Reuters) - Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's Socialist Party appeared in yesterday's general election, to be in serious danger of losing its absolute majority in Parliament, although retaining the strongest party, according to computer forecasts.

The election statistician, Professor Gerhart Bruckmann, predicted the Socialists would win between 90 and 92 seats in the 183-member National Council. The conservative People's Party would win 81 or 82 and the rightist-liberal Freedom Party 10 or 11.

If the Socialists retain their absolute majority, it will enable Dr Kreisky to lead a Socialist government for a record fifth successive term.

Failure will open the possibility of a minority administration.

Dr Kreisky, aged 72, has said he will step down if his party fails to gain an absolute majority.

Photograph, page 6

Explosion sends fumes over city

Four people were taken to hospital after a huge explosion sent a mushroom cloud of chemical fumes into the air over the city of Nottingham yesterday. The blast ripped off a large part of the roof at the Boots chemical factory in Sneinton, near the city centre.

A man inside the factory, two outside contractors and a passing motorist were taken to hospital, where they were detained for observation. None was seriously hurt. They were admitted as a safety precaution after coming into contact with chemical fumes which temporarily caused a tingling sensation of the skin.

Firemen and officials from the Severn Trent Water Authority were yesterday working to prevent the chemical Bromopal, from seeping into the River Trent.

Mr Terry Steele, a director of Boots, said that the cause of the explosion was not yet known but was being investigated. The blast took place in a reaction vessel which was producing the chemical which is used to kill bacteria and mould in pharmaceutical products.

When the vessel exploded some acid fumes went into the air but were quickly dispersed. There is no danger to people in the area," he said. Other parts of the factory would be back to production today.

The explosion damaged a local public house and debris from the roof narrowly missed a pedestrian. The motorist was driving past when a cloud of chemical dust descended on his car.

One eye witness said: "The blast shook the entire factory. There was a huge cloud of white dust which mushroomed up into the air and drifted towards the city centre. It left an acrid taste in the mouth."

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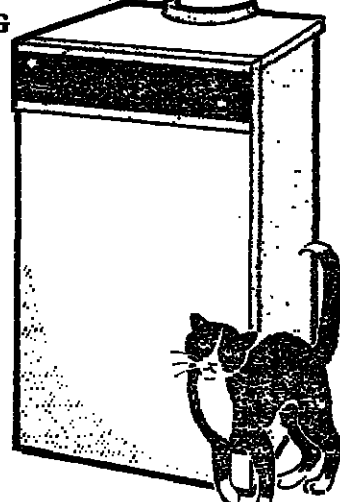
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Controversy over Hitler diaries

Dacre to examine the manuscripts again

By Rupert Morris and Richard Evans

Lord Dacre of Glanton, (Hugh Trevor-Roper) the only British historian to have had access to the newly discovered Hitler diaries, flew to Hamburg yesterday to examine them further as academic controversy mounted over their authenticity.

At a press conference today he is expected to expand on his reasons for believing that the 60 handwritten volumes discovered in a hayloft almost 35 years after the end of the Second World War are the Führer's own personal diaries.

"I do believe that the Hitler diaries are genuine, but there are complications", Lord Dacre said before leaving Heathrow airport.

"I will not put a percentage figure on my belief. I admit there are problems and I have said what they are and it is those problems that I want to work out."

Asked about a claim that there was no evidence that Hitler kept diaries, he said: "There was no evidence about Hitler's table talk either, and no

historians should be given full access to the diaries to determine whether they are genuine. He and others sceptical about the documents, which are being held in a Swiss bank vault, have criticized the evidence of Lord Dacre on the ground that he has only seen them for a single afternoon.

Lord Dacre will be asking *Stern* magazine, the West German weekly which uncovered the diaries, for the opportunity for a more detailed examination, which he is confident will reinforce his opinion, published in *The Times* last Saturday. The diaries are being serialized in *The Sunday Times*.

Lord Bullock, author of *Hitler: A Study in Tyranny*, said yesterday that his doubts about the diaries stemmed from the

extraordinary efforts made over the years to scrape together every scrap of information about Hitler.

"There has never been a suggestion that he kept diaries, and if he did there are things that would be difficult to explain, for example the accounts we have from many people of his physical condition in the last years of his life, and particularly the shaking hand."

Open diaries up for study

Speaking on BBC radio's *The World this Weekend*, he said the only way to establish whether the diaries were authentic was to open them up to an international group of historians. Such a group should

include British, French, German and Jewish members.

Lord Bullock said that no one should be surprised by the disclosure in the diaries that Hitler personally approved the flight of Rudolf Hess, his deputy, to Scotland in May, 1941, or that he ordered his troops not to destroy the British Expeditionary Forces at Dunkirk in 1940.

"From the very first day of the news that Hess had flown to Britain, the possibility that Hitler had tried this on has been discussed very freely. I think the general view is that Hitler did know about it, or if he did it was only in the most hazy way."

"I still believe he did not know about it, but we could be proved wrong. But it is nothing surprising. If it was setting out to forge these documents that would be one of the things I

would want to forge if it was going to be sensational."

German generals were the first to admit that they had been stopped from encircling the British at Dunkirk. People made a great fuss about this point because they were surprised that Hitler should want to hold back, Lord Bullock said.

The most strident criticism of the diaries has come from Mr David Irving, author of *Hitler's War* and a historian who has around passionate opposition for his apparent readiness to defend Hitler.

Mr Irving said that after seeing copies of pages of the documents he had come to the conclusion that they were fakes.

It was highly improbable that Hitler could have written the diaries after his right arm had been damaged in the assassination attempt against him in

1944. Mr Irving said he believed the diaries were the work of a forger working for the East German Government.

But Professor Peter Stern, head of the German department at University College London and author of *Hitler: The Führer and the People*, yesterday dismissed the theory about

Professor Harry Hinsley, master of St John's college, Cambridge, and official historian of British intelligence in the war, said that if the diaries were genuine he doubted if they would contain anything of any value.

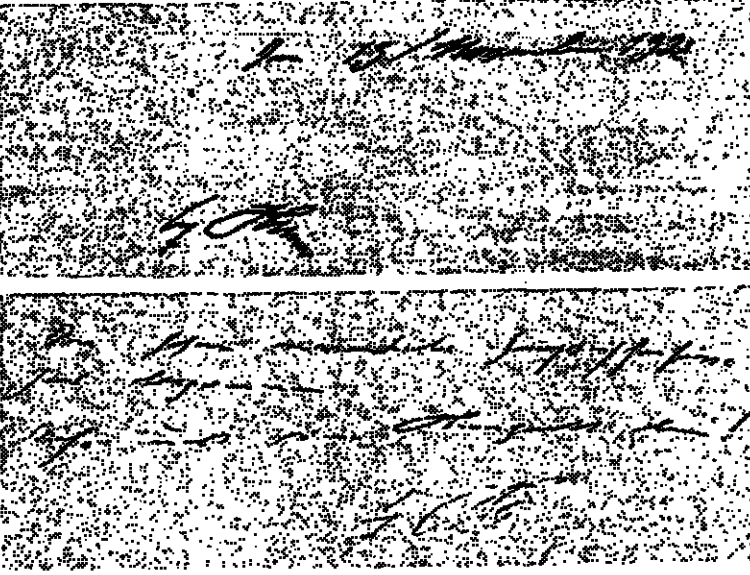
"We have such an enormous amount of information now. It is true there are one or two mysteries, such as why Hess flew here, but they are very unimportant questions. On all the important things that matter we do not need any more information."

"If they are genuine they do not, from what I have read, appear to be factual diaries but essays written up after the event, and obviously very subjective essays. They would not be very reliable."

There are one or two mysteries

Hitler's inability to write because of his alleged injury.

"I have looked at photographs this morning, including one in Joachim Fest's biography of Hitler, that show him on the same day as he survived the assassination with his right hand perfectly in tact."



Hitler's signatures in 1932 (top) and 1945, with the doubting historians: from left: Mr David Irving, Lord Bullock and Professor Harry Hinsley.

Possibility of forgery

one denies that. There is a possibility that the diaries were forged.

"There was always that possibility but it would have been a very difficult operation. I have studied the handwriting and I believe it to be Hitler's. But on the technical side, I would prefer to leave it to the graphologists."

Meanwhile Lord Bullock, another eminent historian and Hitler expert, proposed yesterday that an international group of

Spate of sectarian attacks in Belfast

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A young couple and their daughter aged four were fire-bombed from their home and a public house was bombed in Belfast yesterday in sectarian attacks by "loyalist" extremists.

In another incident a man from the loyalist Donegal Road area of Belfast was seriously injured when a bomb exploded at the back of a house in the university area.

The body of a man aged 32 was found yesterday on playing fields dividing Roman Catholic and Protestant housing areas in the north of the city. He had been so savagely attacked with a hatchet and beaten on the head that it was several hours before he could be identified.

Security forces carried out a controlled explosion in the Divis Flats complex in west Belfast after the Irish National Liberation Army said that it had planted a booby-trap bomb intended for soldiers in a lockup garage.

The terrorists had expected the garage to be searched by the security forces, but when that did not happen they became alarmed that local residents

might trigger the device. Using a code word, they got in touch with a local newspaper to warn it of the danger.

The young couple and their daughter had moved into their terrace house in the strongly Protestant Woodstock area of Belfast only 24 hours before it was engulfed in flames. They were not injured.

The couple, who are expecting a second child, are believed to have been singled out for attack because theirs is a mixed marriage.

The Protestant Action Force, a loyalist paramilitary group, claimed responsibility for bombing the Hole in the Wall bar, in north Belfast. A small device was thrown into the doorway but none of the 12 customers was injured.

£90m ship delay

Faults in electric cabling will delay the launching of the £90m HMS Challenger, claimed to be the world's most advanced deep-sea diving ship, the Scott Lithgow yard on the lower Clyde said yesterday.

Customs strike threatened

Anger over job cuts is expected to lead to industrial action by customs officers at Dover this week, and a free run for any smugglers arriving at that port. The Customs and Excise board has announced that 500 jobs a year are to go until 1988 in addition to the 3,100 jobs lost since 1979.

Amid claims by the Society of Civil and Public Servants, which represents the men, that the customs service is in danger of collapse, officers are planning meetings with the officers and the board during the next two days.

The union says that while job cuts have affected all points of entry on a national basis, it has particularly affected Dover.

Arson claim

Mr Anthony Steen, the Conservative MP for Liverpool, Wavertree, blamed left-wing extremists for a fire which yesterday badly damaged the Wavertree Conservative Association building. Firemen said they had found traces of petrol.

Spying claim

Security services last night were investigating a claim in the *Mail on Sunday* that Herr Heinz Knoke, the deputy German ambassador, has been trying to infiltrate international organizations in London to influence their policy.

Manhunt offer

Citizens' band radio enthusiasts have offered their help to detectives hunting the killer of Andrew Waldron, aged five, who was battered to death on Saturday in his home of Hale Drive, Speke, Liverpool.

Rejected Tory MP still fighting

By George Clark

Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for Flint West, who is challenging the adoption of Miss Beata Brookes, a Member of the European Parliament, as prospective Tory candidate for the new seat of Westminster seat of Clwyd, North-west, will continue his campaign this week to have the decision changed.

On Saturday he went to the new constituency's Conservative Association office in Colwyn Bay to hand in nomination papers. There was a heated argument with Mr Nicholas Sheppard, the agent, and two supporters of Miss Brookes. Mr Sheppard, who accepted the papers, said a decision would be announced "in due course".

Sir Anthony, whose present seat will disappear under boundary changes, has complained about alleged irregularities in Miss Brookes' nomination.

He has the backing of Mr Geraint Morgan, Conservative MP for Denbigh, whose seat is

also to disappear. He too was beaten by Miss Brookes.

That decision is subject to endorsement by the fully paid-up membership of the new constituency association on May 9. This was planned as a formal adoption meeting, but the Meyer supporters believe they have a legal precedent for converting it into another selection meeting.

In Bridgend, South Wales, a candidate had been chosen from a short list by the executive council, but at the full constituency meeting a local man, Mr Peter Hubbard-Miles, was nominated from the floor and selected.

Sir Anthony Grant, Conservative MP for Harrow, Central, since 1964, announced on Saturday that he will not contest the newly formed constituency of Harrow, East, in the interests of his party.

His seat disappears and he lost the contest for Harrow, East, to Mr Hugh Dykes, its present MP. Some of Sir Anthony's supporters had been

trying to reverse that decision.

Mr Mark Carlisle, Conservative MP for Runcorn, and a former Secretary of State for Education and Science, has been selected for the new Warrington South constituency, which includes much of his present constituency.

Mr Frank Dobson, aged 43, Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras, South, since 1979, was selected as prospective candidate for the new constituency of Holborn and St Pancras last night, by 61 votes to 56, in preference to Mr Jack Stallard, aged 62, who has been MP for St Pancras, North, since 1970.

Boundary changes have reduced three constituencies, Hampstead and the two St Pancras seats, to two: Hampstead and Highgate, and Holborn and St Pancras.

Mr Stallard did not challenge for the Hampstead and Highgate nomination which went to Mr John McDonnell, chairman of the finance committee of the Greater London Council.

Sale room

£264,000: the price of independence

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A copy of the American Declaration of Independence was sold for \$412,500 (£264,423) by Christie's in New York on Friday, the highest price recorded at auction for a copy of the document.

Only 22 copies of the declaration are known to have survived, of which 19 were previously held by institutions. This copy came to light only recently in a library which had been handed down from Joseph Hewes, of North Carolina, one of 56 delegates who signed the document in 1776. It was sent for sale by John Gilliam Wood,

of Hayes Plantation, Edenton, North Carolina, and was bought by the Chapin Library at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts.

The library was a distinguished collection of rare American documents but succeeded in raising the money for Friday's purchase with only minutes to spare. Christie's said the telephone call confirming that the library had enough money to buy was received during the auction, with only four lots left to sell before the declaration was offered.

The sale of printed and manuscript Americana totalled

\$476,081, with only 2 per cent unsold.

Meanwhile, Sotheby's in New York held a series of sales of English art and antiques as a contribution to the "Britain Salutes New York 1983" arts festival. A furniture sale on Saturday totalled \$985,771, with 16 per cent unsold.

Among the top prices was the \$71,500 (£45,687) paid by a private collector for a fine pair of George II carved walnut side chairs by Giles Greendey, of Clerkenwell, dating from about 1740. They were expected to fetch \$60,000 to \$80,000.

The west Midlands

Tories likely to weather the storm

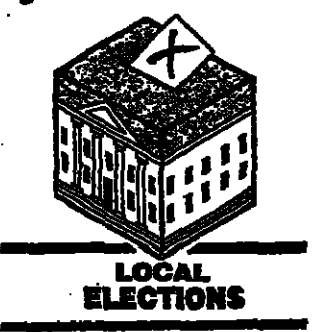
By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

A month ago councils in the West Midlands clubbed together to seek extra government aid for a region hit suddenly, sharply and probably irreversibly by industrial recession.

Two out of five school-leavers in Birmingham are jobless. A single factory closure in Walsall - Rubery Owen - put 4,000 out of work.

But, in the words of Mr Keith Andrews, the Conservative agent in Birmingham: "Mrs Thatcher has brought about a sea change of opinion. People are not blaming the Government for the high level of unemployment."

Publicly, Labour's view is that the national opinion polls are wrong: canvass returns suggest voters are swinging their way. Privately, regional officials are sure only that Labour will keep what it has: the solid areas of Wolverhampton, Coventry, Stoke and Sandwell (West Bromwich and Smethwick).



Labour needs a swing of 6 to 7 per cent from 1982's voting figures to get the six extra wards needed for outright control. Given the unemployment, the ostentatious moderation of Labour leaders in the city and the disappearance of the "Falklands factor", Labour ought to triumph.

But there is no such optimism. At best, Labour might gain two seats from the Liberals and force the Conservatives to govern without an overall majority.

If Labour had the wind in its sails, it should take over Dudley and Walsall. In the first, the Conservative council has created opposition by its spending cuts in the schools; in the second, the Tory-led "anti-socialist coalition" in charge of administration is in disarray. But the position in neither council is likely to change.

CND decry 'smear' by Heseltine

Continued from page 1

Of the five officers and nationally elected members with Communist Party links, three, Professor Michael Pentz, who is one of CND's four vice-chairmen, Mr E P Thompson, and Mr Phil Bolsover, left the Communist Party more than 25 years ago, in 1956 or 1957, as Mr Heseltine's list acknowledges. Mr Bolsover, aged 75, has just been made a vice-president of CND and no longer has a vote on its council, while Mr John Cox, another communist who Mr Heseltine named is also a vice-president and has no vote on the council, which decides policy between CND's annual conferences.

Mr Roger Spiller, aged 40, a vice-chairman of CND who Mr Heseltine said "is associated with the International Socialists" said yesterday he had been a member of the Labour Party since he was 16, and had never belonged to the leftist group.

Mrs Joan Roddick, chairman of CND, said yesterday: "Mr Heseltine's attack is just another attempt to try and smear CND. It appears to be suggesting that there is some kind of conspiracy going on, nothing could be further from the truth." Letters, page 11.

Science report

Genetics seen in a new dimension

By the Staff of Nature

We hear a lot these days about DNA, the double-helix genetic molecule that both controls every cell in the body and, through the germ cells, passes on instructions to the next generation. It resides in the cell's nucleus, but where is it in the nucleus? How is it arranged?

Those questions might affect how the DNA behaves, and how it interacts with RNA, as it must, to control development of the embryo and the later activity of the cell in the body.

Now Dr David Agard and Dr John Sedat of the University of California at San Francisco have devised a way to answer them.

Even now, Dr Agard and Dr Sedat's work is limited to the giant cells of the salivary gland of the scientist's favourite fly, *Drosophila*, but the exciting thing about their technique is that it could be applied almost anywhere.

The method involves a simple combination of two instruments from the opposite ends of the historical spectrum: the optical microscope and the computer. The two scientists actually exploited a common shortcoming of the microscope, that it keeps focus only a very thin slice of the object being studied, while everything else is blurred.

They assembled a microscope in which this effect was exaggerated to the extent that it could effectively "slice" the *Drosophila* nucleus, producing images which would reveal the assembly of the DNA in the cell, layer by layer as the focus of the instrument was stepped down through the cell.

The stepping required is the fine for the human hand, so the knob was turned by a long-geared stepping motor, that moved the focus on by just 1,000 atoms a step. At each step a photograph was taken.

Then a computer was used to calculate what, on each picture, was caused by blurring of other levels, and what was caused by the objects actually in focus. Since the scientists had previously studied the chromosomes (the little string-like units in which the DNA is first assembled) the composite pictures that emerged from the computer calculations were the first pictures of the arrangement of the chromosomes in a non-dividing cell nucleus.

The chromosomes in these *Drosophila* cells appear to arrange themselves in parallel groups in certain places and in controlled groups in others. This broad geometry was repeated in each salivary cell that Dr Agard and Dr Sedat studied.

After this discovery, many questions crowd in. Does the organization repeat itself in other cells of the fly? Or does each tissue have a different pattern? How does the arrangement correspond to the arrangement of the genes on the chromosomes?

Which genes does it place next to which, and why? What of other organisms?

The beauty of this simple work is that these questions arise, and offer, literally, a new dimension to genetics.

Source: *Nature* 21 April, Vol 302 p676, 1983.

Overseas selling prices: America \$28.25; Britain 20.00; France 20.00; Germany 20.00; Japan 20.00; Switzerland 20.00; Australia 20.00; New Zealand 20.00; South Africa 20.00; India 20.00; Pakistan 20.00; Sri Lanka 20.00; Ceylon 20.00; Hong Kong 20.00; Singapore 20.00; Malaysia 20.00; Brunei 20.00; Philippines 20.00; Thailand 20.00; Cambodia 20.00; Laos 20.00; Vietnam 20.00; North Vietnam 20.00; South Vietnam 20.00; East Germany 20.00; West Germany 20.00; Austria 20.00; Czech Republic 20.00; Slovakia 20.00; Poland 20.00; Hungary 20.00; Romania 20.00; Bulgaria 20.00; Yugoslavia 20.00; Albania 20.00; Greece 20.00; Turkey 20.00; Israel 20.00; Jordan 20.00; Syria 20.00; Lebanon 20.00; Iraq 20.00; Kuwait 20.00; Saudi Arabia 20.00; Oman 20.00; United Arab Emirates 20.00; Qatar 20.00; Bahrain 20.00; Brunei 20.00; Maldives 20.00; Sri Lanka 20.00; Ceylon 20.00; Hong Kong 20.00; Singapore 20.00; Malaysia 20.00; Brunei 20.00; Philippines 20.00; Thailand 20.00; Cambodia 20.00; Laos 20.00; Vietnam 20.00; 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Train hit by dislodged kerbstone

Mr Richard Briggs, the driver of an Inter-City train, was in hospital with a fractured skull yesterday after being knocked unconscious in his cab by a 2.5-ton stone slab. The emergency braking system stopped the train, carrying about fifty passengers, after a few hundred yards.

The accident on line from King's Cross to Harrogate, North Yorkshire, happened after a van crashed into North Bridge, at Rigg, near Harrogate, dislodging a 4ft by 1ft kerbstone, which crashed through the driver's cab as the train went under the bridge at about 60 mph.

Mr Ian Firth, the van driver, of Sycamore Avenue, Bradford, was unhurt and none of the passengers were injured.

Actor faces two charges

Peter Adamson, the actor who plays Len Fairclough in the television serial *Coronation Street*, is to appear before magistrates in Rossendale, Lancashire, on May 9 to face two charges of indecent assault.

Mr Adamson, aged 53, married with two sons, was arrested on Saturday and held overnight at Haslingden police station in Lancashire. He was granted bail yesterday and returned home to Bury, Greater Manchester.

Dispute causes petrol shortage

Fifteen garages in central Scotland have had to close because of petrol shortages caused by a dispute involving 110 BP tanker drivers. The dispute is over the company's occasional use of independent delivery firms.

The drivers have gained support from colleagues at other companies, and Shell drivers have agreed not to cross the picket line at Grangemouth, Stirlingshire.

MP's son accused

Randolph Leonard Spencer Churchill, aged 18, the son of Mr Winston Churchill, MP, is to appear at Croydon Magistrates' Court on July 27 to face a summons taken out by British Transport Police, alleging that he avoided his train fare on a journey between Haywards Heath, Sussex, and London.

Video death hunt

Detectives investigating the killing of Gillian Adams, aged 14, at Deeping, St James, Lincolnshire, on April 15, are showing villagers a video film to try to gain information. The film, featuring a stand-in, shows her last known movements.

Radio closedown

Global Radio, an international radio service which has been providing programmes for the blind for the past 23 years, has been forced to close after thieves stole equipment worth thousands of pounds from its studio at Folkestone, Kent.

Yachtsmen safe

Mr George Shearman, of Chudlers Ward, Hampshire, and Mr Kyle Astbury, of Eastleigh, Hampshire, waded to the shore yesterday after their 25ft yacht was beaten on to rocks and sank in the Solent.

Memorial to 'H'

A memorial to Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones, VC, was unveiled in the cloisters of Eton College, his former school, by Mrs Sara Jones, his widow, on Saturday. He died leading an attack to recapture the Falklands.

Two die in fire

Two women were found dead yesterday after fire swept their home in Charles Street, Blackpool. They were Mrs Elizabeth Wilkinson, aged 89, and her daughter, Mrs Janet Coupe, aged 63.

Violent end

Robert Manson, aged 37, of Castlemilk, Glasgow, who was jailed for 12 years in 1968 for attempted murder, was found battered to death in a gutter in the city on Saturday.



Stricter legislation against under-age drinking demanded by JPs' clerks

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Stricter licensing laws to curb the growth in drink-related crimes, particularly among the young, are called for by the Justices' Clerks' Society today.

Under-age drinking is now "so grave that draconian measures are needed to cope with it", the society of 350 chief legal advisers to magistrates in England and Wales says in a paper.

Publicans widely flout the law against selling intoxicating liquor to people aged under 18 or by allowing them to consume it, and yet there are few prosecutions, the society adds.

The link between sales to the young and their subsequent involvement in crime was "too strong to ignore and is an area of grave concern not only to the courts but to the public in general and to parents in particular".

The evidence pointed to alcohol consumption and abuse leading to such levels of crime as having a severely adverse effect on the incidence of crime: there was a demonstrated link day by day between under-age drinking and crime.

Courts daily saw the effect of excessive alcohol consumption in offences of drunkenness, drunken driving, public disorder, assault, criminal damage, dishonesty, burglary and theft.

Many of the crimes were committed by young people after they left licensed premises, with the public house and licensed discotheque having taken the place for thousands of teenagers of the coffee bar and the youth club.

The society calls for a strengthening of the Licensing Act, 1964, to impose strict liability for the offence of selling alcohol to a person aged under 18 or allowing him to consume it.

The present defence that the licensee holder reasonably believes the person to be over 18 should be abolished, it says, because the law is an insufficient deterrent to licensee holders and makes prosecution difficult.

Because of the implications of the measure, however, a system of formal cautions should be introduced, with three cautions giving ground for the cancellation of a licence.

A breach of the law would lead first to a formal written caution from the police. If the caution was rejected by the licensee holder the police could prosecute. If accepted, the caution would be used in evidence if the holder's licence was contested.

Other proposals are for stricter criteria governing the granting of a licence, requiring the applicant to prove the need in his area for another outlet. The trend in some areas has been to grant licences almost on demand, the society says.

Licensing hours should remain the same, but there must be tighter control of late-night drinking clubs, with the sale of drink allowed only as an ancillary to the consumption of a proper meal.

The present law, that there must be substantial refreshment available, was uncertain, with many late-night establishments operating as public houses with music and dancing and staying open until 3am with no intention of serving meals.

Licensing justices should have the power to allow children with parents into specified rooms in approved public houses up to 8pm on particular evenings. That could make a major contribution to the education of the young in the social context of alcohol consumption.

Licensing justices should also have control over the running of clubs and the sale of alcohol there. Clubs would have to apply to the justices for a licence.

Licensing Law in the Eighties (Justices' Clerks' Society, Magistrates' Court, PO Box 107, Nelson Street, Bristol, BS99 7BD).

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● A dispute between broadcasting unions at the BBC and independent television intensified yesterday when the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs (ABS) was warned by its general secretary, Mr Anthony Hearn, that the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) was "bent on destroying it".

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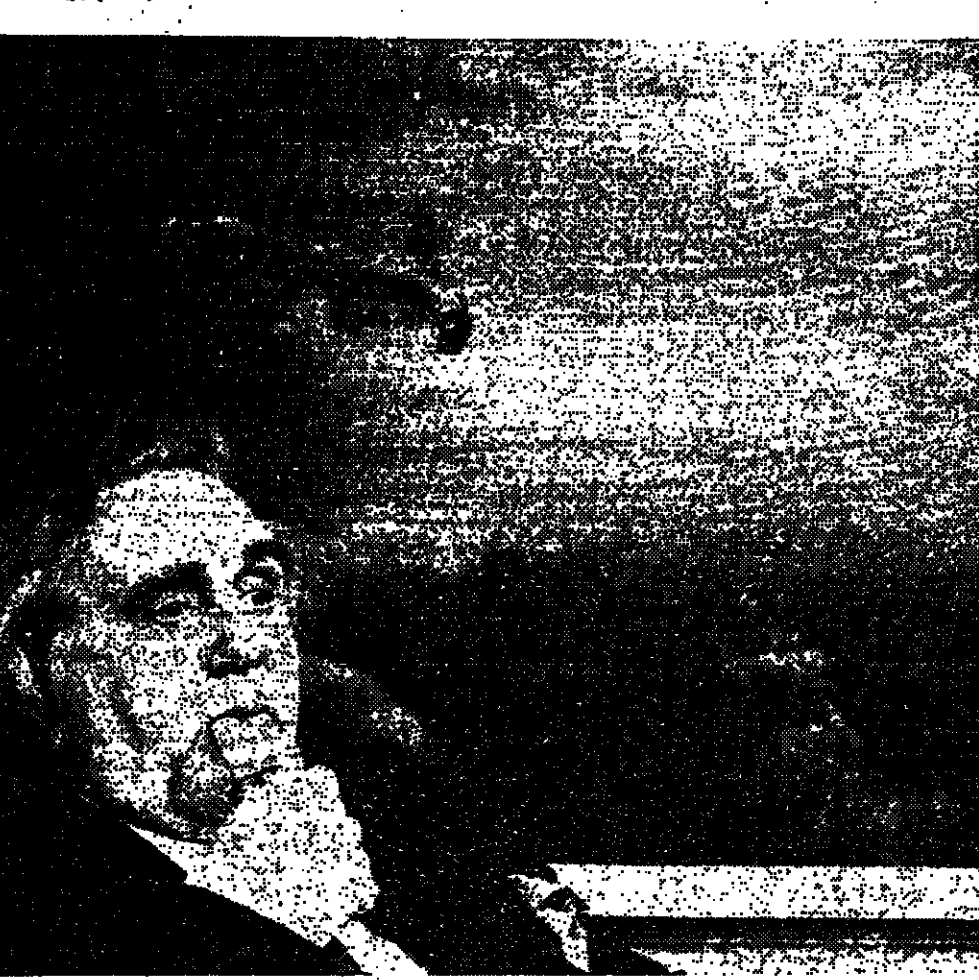
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The dispute has been continuing since the ACTT tried to get negotiating recognition for its members at the BBC's Ealing Film Studios. The BBC recognizes only the ABS.

He told the union's annual

granted of a licence, requiring the applicant to prove the need in his area for another outlet. The trend in some areas has been to grant licences almost on demand, the society says.

Licensing hours should remain the same, but there must be tighter control of late-night drinking clubs, with the sale of drink allowed only as an ancillary to the consumption of a proper meal.



Kenneth Hancock with his painting of the Excelsior.

Tribute to hero of the skies

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

Special tribute will be paid to a wartime hero this week with the unveiling of a painting of the aircraft in which the Halifax bomber's only Victoria Cross was won.

Mr Kenneth Hancock's picture of the Excelsior was commissioned by former members of 578 Squadron Bomber Command in memory of all aircrew and, in particular, of Pilot Officer Cyril Barton, the captain who died winning the Victoria Cross.

The painting will be unveiled at a preview in Birmingham on Wednesday, to which Marshal of the Air Force Sir Arthur Harris, the former head of Bomber Command, has been invited.

The picture will be reproduced in unlimited edition for

the new Bomber Command Museum, Hendon, and the RAF Benevolent Fund.

More than 200 Halifax crews, including three who baled out of the Excelsior and became prisoners of war, will attend the preview.

The Excelsior flew from Burn, Yorkshire, on the ill-fated Nuremberg raid on March 30, 1944. Bomber Command suffered its worst disaster on that Thursday, night with 96 out of the 795 aircraft failing to return.

The Excelsior was attacked by fighters near the target and severely damaged. Pilot Officer Barton's subsequent Victoria Cross citation said: "At the height of the battle a signal

was misinterpreted and the navigator, air bomber and wireless operator left the aircraft by parachute".

Pilot Officer Barton pressed on and, released the bombs himself but turning for home, the Excelsior lost a propeller and fuel. He flew for nearly five hours without navigational aids against strong head winds, but avoided heavy defences. He crossed the English coast 90 miles from his base at Ryhope, near Sunderland.

With only one engine working and almost out of fuel, he attempted to land and avoided houses over which he was flying. He died in the crash, but the three crew members still with him survived.

Dispute threatens gypsy site

By David Nicholson-Lord

Two hundred gypsies may face eviction from one of their few sites near central London because of a long-running dispute involving a Conservative-controlled London borough and the Labour-controlled Greater London Council.

The GLC owns the Westway site in north Kensington and is refusing to renew the lease when it runs out in June. Hammer-smith and Fulham council, which rents and runs the site, says it has surveyed more than a hundred other sites but can find no suitable alternative.

The site lies under a motorway, next to a railway line, and suffers from very high levels of lead pollution. Earlier this year the borough council was ordered by magistrates under the Public Health Act to monitor lead levels every three months.

Three quarters of the travellers are children.

But the tussle over the site forms part of a wider conflict between the GLC and several London boroughs, many Conservative-controlled, over the provision of legal pitches for gypsies. The GLC has mounted a campaign to provide more space because of the number of travellers being drawn to central London as a consequence of the recession.

A report to be submitted to the GLC's ethnic minorities committee this week estimates that there are at least 500 gypsy families camping on unauthorized sites in London and therefore liable to be moved on. There are, by contrast, only 383 official pitches.

tion from the Department of the Environment under the Caravan Sites Act, 1968.

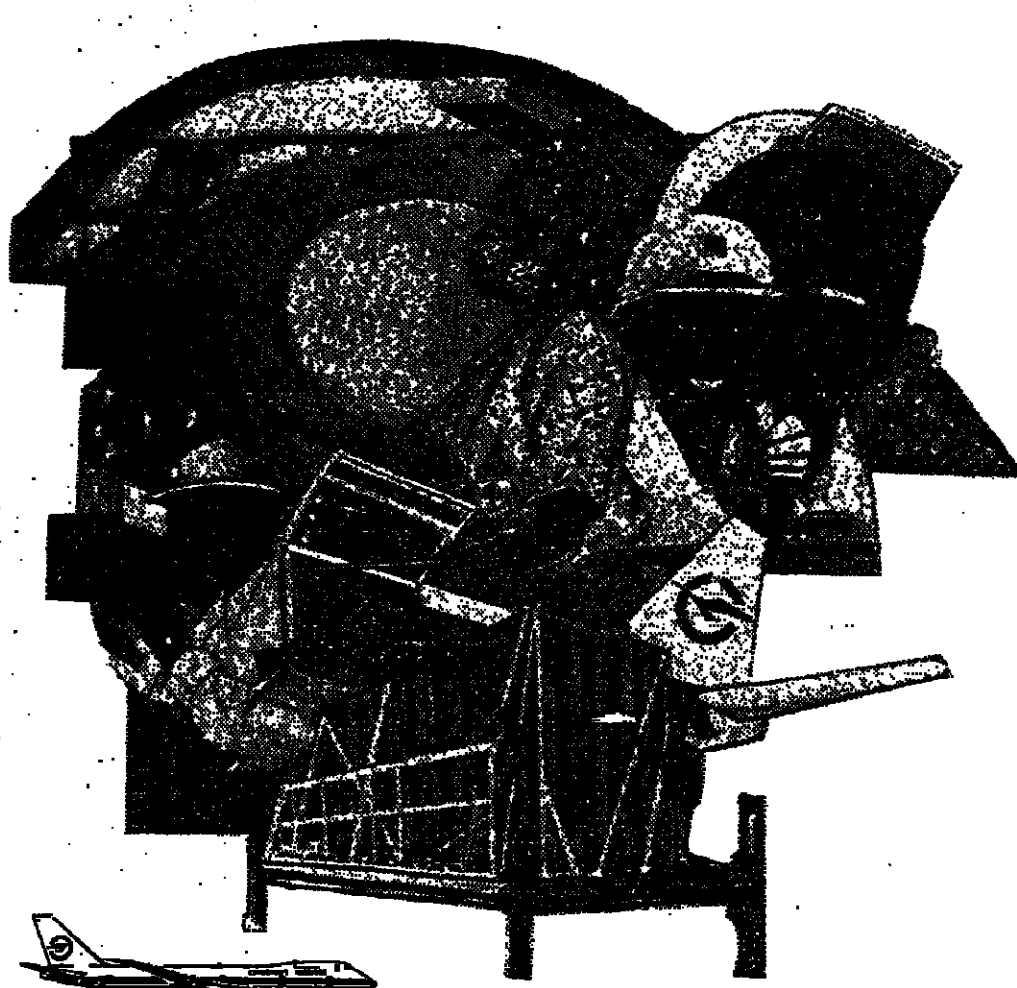
The GLC has offered land to boroughs for the travellers, but says the offer has been rejected. It says it has also been told by Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment with responsibility for gypsies, that it cannot spend its own money on providing sites.

Westway residents have fought a three-year campaign over the site's health hazards, including accumulations of rubbish, bad drainage, fire risk and vandalized lavatory blocks. This culminated in February in a series of public health orders against Hammer-smith council. But the council says the gypsies themselves cause many of the problems.

The gypsies, who want another site, sought help from the GLC last year. The GLC, which agrees the site is a health risk, has already agreed to one extension. However, last week, it said: "If we extend the lease for another year Hammer-smith will not take any action and we could all be in the same position this time next year."

A spokesman for the ethnic minorities committee, of which Mr Kenneth Livingstone is chairman, said the GLC would not evict the gypsies from the site but added: "If Hammer-smith pull out and switch off the services, we have no legal powers whatsoever to provide the travellers with electricity, toilets and washing facilities, rubbish collection or anything else."

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Reagan to tell Congress of moral duty to stop a second Cuba

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan is to make a rare address to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday in an attempt to persuade doubting Congressmen to support - or at least not actively oppose - his Administration's policy in Central America.

It will be only the ninth time in the past half century that a President has made such an appearance and his action is intended to dramatize the Administration's concern at the deteriorating situation in the region.

His address is the culmination of a huge lobbying campaign by senior officials who have been urging Congress to approve the Administration's request for increased military aid to El Salvador and not to blow the whistle on American covert support for right-wing insurgents fighting against the Sandinist Government in Nicaragua.

The campaign has included deep background briefings by Mr William Casey, the head of the CIA, and a guided CIA tour for a small group of Congressmen of the border area between Honduras and Nicaragua where the anti-Sandinist rebels are operating.

The message that the President will deliver will be a simple one. He will argue that Central America is the "front

line" and that the US has a "moral duty" to prevent the proliferation of Cuban-style regimes in the region.

One such regime - in Nicaragua - is already as much as the Administration can stomach. Last week Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State, gave warning of the possible introduction to Nicaragua of modern fighter aircraft by Cuba or the Soviet Union and even Cuban combat troops.

If El Salvador fell to the left-wing guerrillas fighting against Salvadoran government forces then, so the Administration contends, the contagion would very quickly spread to Mexico and to Panama in the south. To prevent this happening, the Reagan Administration argues that it must make the cost of interventionism for Nicaragua and Cuba as high as possible. This means giving increased military and economic support to El Salvador so that it can successfully combat the Nicaraguan and Cuban-backed insurgents. It also involves giving Nicaragua what one official described as "a taste of its own medicine" by encouraging the anti-Sandinist forces, known as *contras*, to sustain their hit-and-run tactics in outlying areas of the country.

However, the President will be met with considerable

scepticism on Capitol Hill where the memory of involvement in Vietnam has not completely evaporated. Some Congressmen, a relatively small minority, believe the US has no business getting involved in the region at all. They argue that the Administration's blinkered determination to see the region's upheavals in East-West terms means that it is incapable of lacking the root causes of the problem - the social, political and economic injustice which has characterized Central America for decades.

A larger group accept the Administration's contention that Central America falls within its sphere of interest, but disagree with the role which the Administration believes the United States should play. In particular they feel US attempts to bolster the Salvadoran Government and its armed forces will be self-defeating unless they are accompanied by pressure on the regime to reach a political accommodation with the guerrillas.

This view is supported by official US assessments that it will take years before the ineffectual Salvadoran armed forces are capable of bringing the present situation under control. Some Congressmen doubt whether this will ever be possible.

However the most contentious issue at present is the covert aid which the US is giving to the Nicaraguan *contras*. This is not just because the assistance is felt to be in violation of the spirit if not the letter of the Boland Amendment (which forbids aid to guerrillas "for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of Nicaragua") but also because it reeks of similar secret operations in South-east Asia during the 1960s. Such small beginnings can quickly get out of hand and culminate in huge US involvement.

Whatever its deep-felt concerns, however, Congress will be cautious in its response and will probably not let the President go away empty-handed. Legislators are aware that if they are seen to be tying the President's hands too tightly, he could lay the blame squarely on Congress in the event of El Salvador being overrun by the guerrillas.

Whatever the outcome, Congress will ultimately agree to most of what the Administration is asking in terms of increased military assistance for El Salvador, although probably with some conditions attached. But Congress will try to restrict as far as possible clandestine US activities in and around Nicaragua.

Brazilians unload arms planes

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

Brazilian officials began unloading at the weekend light and heavy arms, ammunition, missiles, explosives and a dismantled aircraft from the four Libyan cargo planes impounded in Brazil a week ago. Most of the war material was of Soviet origins but there were also some American arms.

Tight security was imposed as the unloading of three Ilyushins began on Saturday at Manaus, in the Amazon basin, and of a C130 Hercules cargo aircraft at Recife airport. The operation is expected to be completed tomorrow. The Brazilian authorities fear that there might be booby traps on board the aircraft, which were en route to Nicaragua, when they were detained.

Libyan diplomats and crew members refused to witness the unloading of the aircraft.

Urgent talks plea by Managua

Managua (Reuters) - Señor Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, accusing Honduras of complicity in right-wing insurgency in Nicaragua, has called for direct talks between the two countries "before it is too late".

Early this month Nicaragua announced it was fighting some 2,000 well-armed right-wing exiles who had infiltrated from bases in Honduras in an operation run by the Honduran Army and the United States.

Since then, there has been a spate of warnings that Honduras and Nicaragua were drifting towards open war. Fears of a conflict between Honduras, the closest ally of the US in Central America, and left-wing Nicaragua have spurred fresh diplomatic efforts to bring peace to Central America.

Señor d'Escoto returned on Friday from a meeting of nine Latin American foreign ministers in Panama City, where they discussed the problems of the region and ways of ending the conflicts affecting three of Central America's six countries.



Señor d'Escoto: Talk before it is too late.

He said direct talks with Honduras were a priority.

Although Western reporters have accompanied Nicaraguan exile forces from bases in Honduras to combat areas deep in Nicaragua, the Honduran Government has denied involvement.

In Washington, spokesmen have declined to comment on the extent of US assistance to the right-wingers operating from Honduras, saying it was

established practice not to comment on covert operations.

Señor d'Escoto said the Panama City meeting had noted that some of Central America's problems required a bilateral solution.

Both Honduras and the US have so far rejected bilateral talks on Nicaragua's insurgency and high tension along the border between the neighbours.

A communiqué issued after the talks said they had provided an opportunity for a "preliminary diagnosis" of the region's ills. But it provided no prescription for a cure.

● **SAN SALVADOR:** the Salvadoran Government has ordered the release of 11 political prisoners detained at the Mariona prison, on the outskirts of the capital, AP reports.

Señor Marion Luis Velasquez, a member of the government human rights commission, said it was ordered, on Saturday, by the general command of the Salvadorean armed forces.



Winning smile: Corinne Hermes, who sang Luxembourg's winning entry *Si La Vie est un Cadeau* (If Life is A Gift) in the Eurovision song contest in Munich on Saturday night before a television audience estimated at 500 million.

Her song won 142 votes from the international jury, six more than Israel's entry sung by Osa Haza, Reuters reports. Third was Carola Häggkvist of Sweden

with 126 votes. Britain's entry by the group Sweet Dreams came sixth.

Twenty countries entered songs and among those connected to the Eurovision network for the event was the Soviet Union which had no entry.

Apart from the 500 million viewers in 30 countries who watched the contest, held for the 28th year, the West German organizers said 200 million were listening on radio.

Riddle of expelled spy 'who does not exist'

Moscow (Reuters) - Pravda said yesterday that a US vice-consul in Leningrad named as D Shorer had been caught spying and expelled from the country.

A lengthy report in the Communist Party daily said he had been trapped by KGB agents as he picked up material from a dead-letter box in the city.

It gave no indication of when the incident had taken place, and no official called Shorer appears in the diplomatic lists of the past five years.

The US Embassy said staff there had no recollection of a vice-consul with a name like Shorer working in the Leningrad consulate.

A spokesman had no comment to make on the report, particularly as it appeared to concern events which took place several years ago.

The report centred on alleged world-wide efforts by the US Central Intelligence Agency to recruit Soviet citizens as agents.

It appeared intended as a response to Washington's decision last week to throw out three Soviet officials on charges of spying.

The central figure in the report was a Russian named Boris who was said to have been recruited by the CIA, while working as a development expert in Africa. On his return to Leningrad the CIA demanded he continue to provide information; but he confessed to the KGB and then served as a double agent.

Meanwhile, Mr Leonid Zamiatin, a senior Soviet foreign affairs expert, said relations between Moscow and Washington were unlikely to improve while President Reagan was in power.

● **ROME:** Italy may be preparing to expel about 100 alleged Eastern European and Third World spies named in a dossier drawn up by counter-intelligence services according to the Florence paper *La Nazione* Reuters reports.

Rifkind off to Moscow for dialogue

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, flew to Moscow yesterday on the first ministerial visit to the Soviet Union for five years, for talks aimed at improving East-West relations. He will spend two days in Moscow and two days in Leningrad.

"I want to achieve a number of things", he said. "First to emphasize to them the absolute unity of the Western alliance and the need to ensure a proper defence of the people of the West. Second, to make it clear that we do recognize the Soviet Union has a legitimate right to guarantee its own security but that it cannot be brought about by the subjugation of its neighbours as in Afghanistan. Third, I want to try and to see if there is a possibility of proper realistic dialogue."

Mr Rifkind is also to plead for the release of Anatoly Shcharansky, the dissident

Turkey lifts ban on political parties

Ankara (Reuters) - Turkey's ruling military national security council yesterday lifted a 1980 ban on political activities, paving the way for general elections promised for this autumn or early next year.

The council published the long-awaited political parties law and a decree regulating the extent of political activity permitted in the official government gazette.

It set May 16 as the date for resumption of applications to form new political parties; but said groups could go ahead with forming new movements before then.

The five-man council, which seized power in September, 1980, after a period of political violence, banned all political parties and activities, promising to return to democracy in spring 1984 at the latest.

Since the approval of a new constitution in a national referendum last November, a military-appointed consultative assembly has been preparing the political parties law for submission to the council for final approval.

The new law, in accordance with the constitution, bars from politics all leaders and top executives of political parties disbanded after the 1980 military takeover. It recommends prison terms for any banned politicians taking part in new parties.

The names of those banned from politics were scheduled to appear in the official gazette within a week and the council would have a power of veto over any of the founders of the new parties until the first elections were held.

The council limited the scope of permitted political activity, banning all written or verbal comments attacking, praising or defending banned parties of members of them.

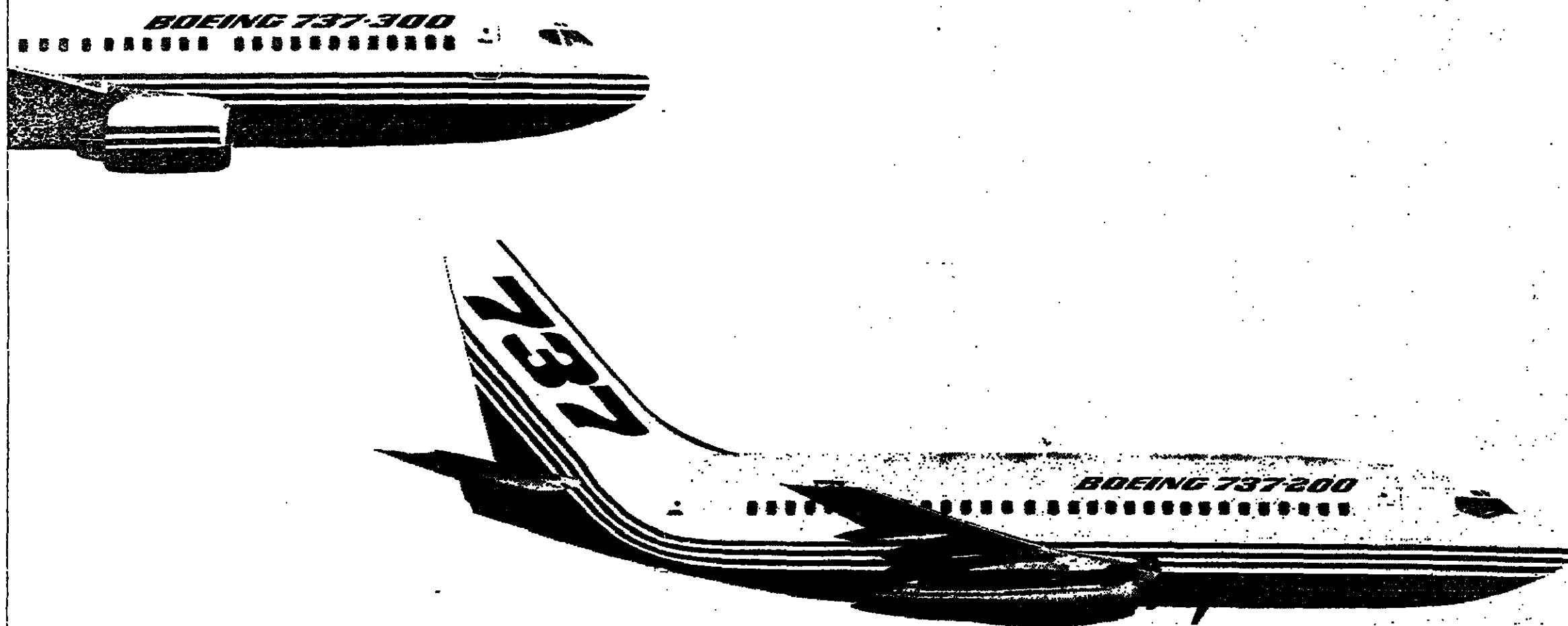
In its decree, the council also prohibited criticism or debate on any of its decisions, speeches by President Kenan Evren, or the activities of the martial law administration. Those banned from political activity were also banned from expressing their personal opinion on Turkey's past and future political and legal status, the decree said.

The bans on the former political leaders were seen as an attempt by the military to make a complete break with the past.

General Evren has been emphasizing this point in recent speeches and asking his people not to follow the lines of the old political parties.

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Killer's accomplice to go to electric chair that took 10 minutes to work

From Our Own Correspondent, New York

The seventh American to die in the electric chair since 1976 was put to death on Friday night. It was grotesque. It took three separate jolts each of 1,900 volts over a 10-minute period to kill the convicted murderer, John Louis Evans.

The affair has raised fresh controversy over the death penalty and provoked new calls for its abolition.

Mr Russell Canan, prison officials and several journalists were at the execution. Evans was wearing white prison clothes when he was strapped into the Alabama electric chair. A skull cap fitted with electrodes was placed on his head.

The electrode on his left leg burnt through and fell off during the first 30-second jolt. Prison guards repaired it and reattached it after doctors said he was not dead.

A second 30-second jolt was sent surging through his body. A puff of smoke and a burst of flame erupted from his left temple and leg. Doctors put stethoscopes on his chest; but said they still were not certain he was dead.

The official observers became emotional at the macabre spectacle.

Mr Canan then appealed to the prisoner commissioner in Holman Prison for clemency from Governor George Wallace and shouted that the penalty was "cruel".

There was an open line from the prison to the governor, but there was no response to the appeal.

The third jolt was given at 8.40pm and four minutes later Evans was officially pronounced dead.

Mr Canan said: "John Evans was burnt alive tonight the state of Alabama... tortured tonight in the name of vengeance and in the disguise of justice."

He added yesterday: "I hope that the method of execution will inspire the complete abolition of the death penalty because ritualized murder is barbaric in any form."

It was disclosed at the weekend that the state plans to use the same electric chair to execute Evans's accomplice, Wayne Eugene Ritter, on Friday May 13.

Mr Ron Tate, the Alabama Corrections Department spokesman, said the chair would have a routine check before the execution. He did not believe the chair was faulty, it had been properly tested before

Evans's execution and had already successfully electrocuted 154 Alabama convicts. Evans, he suggested, might have had some special resistance to electricity.

The chair had been inspected every day for five days before Evans's execution and tests showed it was working properly. Evans had previously received two temporary reprieves, the second less than 24 hours before his execution.

A Supreme Court ruling finally cleared the way for the execution on a vote of 7-2 only hours before he went to his death.

Evans, who once demanded his own execution, admitted murder and said at his trial that he would do it again. In a final statement he said: "I have no malice towards anyone. I have no hatred towards anyone."

His lawyers described him on the eve of his death as a man "at peace with himself and ready for anything that comes along."

He was the first Alabama prisoner to be put to death in 18 years and the seventh in America since the Supreme Court reinstated capital punishment in 1976.



Show of hands: Supporters greet Chancellor Bruno Kreisky after he had cast his vote yesterday in the Austrian election.

Protest at Sinai anniversary

Mubarak issues challenge to Shultz

From Robert Holloway, Cairo

President Mubarak of Egypt threw down a challenge at the weekend to Mr George Shultz, asserting that the American Secretary of State could not consider his maiden trip to the Middle East a success without obtaining a pledge from the Israelis to pull out of Lebanon.

He also brushed aside what looked like an attempt by President Reagan to belittle the importance of the Palestine Liberation Organization, stating that Egypt continued to regard the PLO as the Palestinians' sole legitimate representative.

Mr Shultz is due in Cairo today at the start of a 10 day tour of the region seen here as a last-ditch attempt to salvage Mr Reagan's plan for Palestinian self-determination in association with Jordan.

Mr Mubarak said that Egypt has told the Palestinians to "live in reality" and cooperate with King Hussein so that the US could start its work, but he

rejected Mr Reagan's contention, made at a White House briefing on Friday, that "negotiations don't have to hinge on the PLO."

Speaking at a ceremony in El Arish, the capital of Sinai, to mark the first anniversary today of the end of the Israeli occupation of the peninsula, Mr Mubarak said: "until now, and according to the Rabat summit, the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians."

Mr Reagan blames radical PLO elements for the failure of talks between King Hussein and Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader on implementing the Reagan proposals.

The Egyptians, however, put the blame, partly upon the Americans. Although a Foreign Ministry spokesman here said on Saturday that the Shultz visit was a "proof of the Americans' willingness to try to get the Israelis out of Lebanon," Mr

Mubarak said that an agreement on withdrawal was "the minimum condition" for the success of the Shultz tour.

Mr Shultz is scheduled to confer with President Mubarak tomorrow and then fly on to Israel on Wednesday on the second leg of his tour.

Mr Mubarak found the celebrations in El Arish a little more lively than he had expected as some 300 local people who had gathered to meet him began to protest at the lack of facilities provided for them since Egypt recovered the territory. Because of the heckling Cairo radio broke off its live coverage of the proceedings, but not before the President had been heard to say: "That's enough for the television and the press" and ordered foreign correspondents out of the room.

He told Mr Muhammad Salah-Nasrallah, chairman of

the local Provincial Assembly, who had asked if he could air "certain issues and certain demands" that he had come for a celebration. "There is no room whatsoever to air only demands. This is not the place," the President said as a heckler shouted: "Our palm trees have died."

The heckler was dressed in Bedu robes to emphasize the complaint of some local people that "The authorities treat us like nomads, whereas El Arish has been settled for 5,000 years."

Nevertheless, the President agreed to let people air their grievances once the press had been escorted from the room.

An official here later asserted, somewhat implausibly, that live radio coverage of the proceedings had never been planned "because it was an occasion for discussing problems, not for making speeches."

Israel holds back on unilateral pullout

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

The Israeli Cabinet yesterday discussed withdrawing its troops unilaterally to a 45km (28 miles) security zone in southern Lebanon, but did not take a final decision pending the arrival in the Middle East this week of Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State.

The proposal for a unilateral Israeli withdrawal to southern Lebanon's Awali river, which was placed before the Cabinet by Mr Abaron Uzan, has been gaining support as the negotiations with Lebanon have remained deadlocked and Israeli casualties have continued to mount.

Jerusalem is placing considerable importance on Mr Shultz's visit, however, and was not prepared to prejudge the outcome of his mission by taking any hasty action.

But there is a clear feeling that time is running out, and that if Mr Shultz is unable to persuade Lebanon to be more forthcoming on Israel's security demands, some form of unilateral action will be unavoidable.

● **BEIRUT:** Mr Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, said yesterday that he saw some grounds for hope in the talks on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and that Mr Shultz's visit may help resolve the situation, Katherine Dourian writes.

Mr Callaghan spoke to a group of reporters before leaving Beirut at the end of his Middle East tour, that has also taken him to Jordan and Egypt.

There existed a procedural framework for a withdrawal, with a lot of detail filled in, he said.

"If I am right in saying that the situation needs one more move, then Secretary Shultz can do it," Mr Callaghan said, adding that withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon could begin in a matter of weeks.

● **Hair's view:** Mr Douglas Hair, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said in an interview published in the Lebanon yesterday the United States should exert more pressure on Israel to withdraw its

forces from Lebanon, AP reports.

Speaking to the English-language weekly *Monday Morning*, Mr Hurd said that the US administration should keep up its pressure on the Israelis to withdraw from Lebanon and freeze the building of Jewish settlements on the West Bank, "as we have encouraged them to do."

"We have pressed the Israelis to be more flexible and take more account of Lebanese concerns" in the American-sponsored Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal talks, he said.

Mr Hurd, who visited Lebanon as part of a Middle East tour earlier this month, said that there was a risk of an Israeli-Syrian military confrontation in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley "as long as there is no movement on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon."

● **Grenade charge:** Lebanon's military prosecutor has filed preliminary charges against a Lebanese Muslim suspected of throwing a hand grenade which wounded five US marines in Beirut last month, judicial sources said, Reuters reports.

They said Mr Assad Gernanos, the prosecutor, asked for Nazmi Mohammad Al-Sakka to be charged with acts of terrorism and attempted murder.

Under Lebanese law, the prosecutor's request must be investigated by a military judge who may then draw up an indictment under which the accused can be tried by a military court.

● **JIDDAH:** King Hussein of Jordan sent two senior ministers to Arab capitals yesterday, before Mr Shultz arrived in bid to revive President Reagan's peace plan, Reuters reports.

● **TUNIS:** Arab diplomats predicted a significant new development in US moves for Middle East peace, the main topic at a meeting of key Palestinian leaders, in Tunis last night, Reuters reports.

Iceland fails to find poll victor

Reykjavik (Reuters) Mr Gunnar Thoroddsen, Iceland's outgoing Prime Minister, yesterday urged political parties to form a majority government, after general elections which failed to produce a clear winner.

Mr Thoroddsen, who is retiring from politics at the age of 71, said on radio that Iceland's economic crisis was so severe that it could not afford to have a weak government or fresh elections.

No single party won a majority in Saturday's elections

to the 60-member Althing (Parliament), and the composition of a new coalition was uncertain.

Six parties contested the election in which the main issues were an annual inflation rate of more than 100 per cent, a weak currency and problems in the fishing industry.

The ruling coalition of centrists, Socialists and Communists lost four seats, while the opposition conservative Independence Party (IP) gained one to remain the biggest party

Analysts said the most likely combination would be a coalition of Independents and Progressives and even that could be achieved only through tough negotiations.

Since no single party could claim victory, the present Government is not obliged to resign though the analysts said M Thoroddsen was likely to step down in a few days.

President Vigdis Finnbogadottir would then probably ask him to stay on as caretaker Prime Minister until a new government is formed, they said, and this could take several weeks.

The analysts ascribed the losses of the centrist Progressive Party, which represents small sheep farmers and fishermen, to its weak performance in fighting inflation in Government.

The conservatives led their campaign with a tough anti-inflation programme and promises of tax cuts to stimulate the economy.

Three feminists, representing the first all-woman party to stand in a European general election, were elected with 5.5 per cent of the vote.

ICELANDIC ELECTION			
	Seats	Partia ment	%
Independ Party	28	22	38.7
Progressive Party	10	11	19
People's Alliance	10	11	17.3
Social Democrats	6	10	17
New Social Dem	4	0	7.3
Feminists	3	0	5.5



Masculine support: Sigridur Duna Kristmundsdottir, elected MP on a feminist ticket in Iceland, hears the results watched by her husband.

Swiss call time on Hongkong

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Stung by what they regard as outright provocation, leading Swiss watch manufacturers have taken action to stop a display of watches from Hongkong in premises immediately behind the hall housing the annual European Watch and Jewelry Exhibition in Basel.

A court decision is expected today on the Swiss companies' submission that some of the Hongkong watches are imitations of high-priced Swiss watches with famous names. Some 20 different models from Hongkong were seized by police on Thursday.

At last year's exhibition, the Hongkong exporters were refused display space, but allowed to show their wares privately to prospective customers in a room closed to members of the public. This year the exhibition organizers were under pressure to refuse Hongkong a stand.

Hongkong is now the leading exporter of lower-priced watches, especially quartz ones. Swiss sales of watch components to Hongkong last year were worth £150m, more than four times the value of the colony's watch exports to Switzerland.

The Swiss action reflects the manufacturers' anger and frustration at the growing number of cheap imitations of Swiss prestige watches emanating mainly from Far Eastern countries, including South Korea and Taiwan.

Iraq claims big Iran push fails

Baghdad (Reuters) - General Abdul-Jabbar Shanshal, Iraq's military chief of staff, claims Iran has failed to occupy an inch of Iraqi territory despite massing 120,000 of its best troops to break through into Misan province earlier this month.

In a television interview, he warned Iraq that any new attack on Iraqi territory would be crushed ruthlessly. Iraq claims nearly 15,000 Iranian troops were killed in the offensive.

Mintoff meets opposition after MPs end boycott

From Our Correspondent, Valletta

Mr Dom Mintoff, Malta's Prime Minister, and Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, leader of the Nationalist Party, have held their first reported meeting in a year after the opposition party recently ended a boycott of Parliament.

The meeting, on Thursday, comes after discussions between the ruling Malta Labour Party and the Nationalists after the latter's members took their oath of office before the House of Representatives on March 29. The house is due to meet again today for its first sitting since then.

The Nationalist group enters parliament after a 15-month boycott to secure reforms in electoral and broadcasting laws. In the last elections, in December, 1981, the Nationalists received an absolute majority of seats in Parliament.

After taking their oath of office on March 29, the Nationalist members walked out of Parliament in protest against a debate on Malta's relations with Europe, and the presence of broadcasting staff in the House for a transmission of the debate on all broadcasting media.

The state-controlled Broadcasting organization has boycotted the Nationalists for more than a year, while the party has not advertised on such media for the same period.

● **Hijackers return:** Two Libyan Army officers who hijacked a Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 727 to Malta last February, returned to Libya on Saturday. They had given themselves up at the time on a guarantee by Mr Mintoff that they would not be returned to Libya, and that asylum would be sought for them in another country.

At a press conference before they left Luqa airport on Saturday, First Lieutenant Abdul es Salaam Abu Kitta and First Lieutenant Ali Tawati Mansur al Mahdi said that what urged them to hijack the aircraft over Libyan territory was a family matter, which had nothing to do with politics. They said their decision to return to Libya was freely taken, and they felt the Libyan people would fully understand their problems.

They also maintained that they did not belong to any extremist organization.

Fanfani seeks to avoid blame

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Senator Amintore Fanfani's coalition Government will almost certainly resign within the week although a formula has yet to be found for allowing a general election without appearing to blame the Government itself for falling apart.

The Administration has been doomed since the Socialists, the second largest partner in the four-party coalition after the Christian Democrats, announced on Friday that they intended to force an election by withdrawing their support.

However, like the other partners, they wish to avoid being seen as solely responsible for the dissolution of parliament.

Senator Fanfani himself is understandably angry at the conduct of his principal allies. He was called back to the prime

ministership on December 1, after 20 years, and gave up the comfortable post of the Senate's presiding officer.

Five months later, he is about to lose office but he feels the period was not without success, including a long sought agreement on labour costs, and approval of the budget estimate.

He had hoped for further achievements, but they are now denied him. All he can now do is to attempt to defend his Government's good name combined with an effort to arrive at a pre-election agreement between his own Christian Democrat party and the Socialists in the next Parliament. Such an agreement, however, looks highly improbable.

Senator Fanfani will address the Senate on Thursday about

the Socialists' decision to abandon him. He has to take because Monday is a public holiday and on Tuesday and Wednesday Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, will be in Italy and on Tuesday evening the Senate has to vote finally on the budget estimate.

Signor Fanfani should therefore be ready for his call on President Pertini on Friday at the latest to inform him of his Government's resignation. He is not expected to wait for a vote.

Important local government elections are due on June 26, and the Socialists feel that voting in the general election should take place on the same day. The Christian Democrats differ.



Belgians march against cruise

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Thousands of Belgians, with enthusiasm little dampened by the weather, gathered in Brussels yesterday to protest against the deployment of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

Just outside the town is the air force base which has been chosen as the site for the 48 cruise missiles, which Belgium has agreed to accept if the nuclear disarmament talks in Geneva breakdown.

This was a first "on site" protest, and attracted demonstrators not only from Belgium, but from Holland, West Germany and France. The Scottish National Party was among many groups which sent messages of support.

It was a good-natured dem-

onstration, with enthusiasm little dampened by the weather. Significantly, there were supporters from the whole spectrum of Belgian politics, proof that the anti-nuclear movement in the country is broadly based and is not the exclusive preserve of the left. Nevertheless, it was obvious that the movement is far from being able to rely on unanimous support in the country.

A group of young people handed out leaflets at the rally on behalf of the "committee for peace in liberty" protesting that the Soviet Union was doing nothing to reduce its nuclear threat in Europe.

The mayor of Gerpinnes, which borders Florence, obtained a police order prohibiting the anti-nuclear move-

Spain 'turns down' submarine refit deal

Madrid - Spain turned down a \$300m (£193m) deal to refit South African submarines in order to show its compliance with the United Nations arms embargo, according to information published here yesterday, *Madrid Daily*. *El Pais* quoted "a high administration source" who added that contracts for the construction of more submarines for the South African Navy were also to be reviewed.

The report, claiming that Spain's Socialist Government took the decision to refuse the contract within the first two months of taking office, comes in the middle of a nationwide municipal election campaign.

No explanation has been given for the timing of the disclosure.

Raiders flee Mozambique

Maputo (Reuters) - Mozambican troops intercepted a group of South African agents inside the country last Tuesday and captured a quantity of explosives, the official Mozambican news agency said yesterday.

The agency said troops had stopped the raiders in the Namacha district near the South African border. The raiders, who were wearing civilian clothes, fled when confronted by the Army.

Rowling to go

Wellington (Reuters) - Mr Bill Rowling, the former New Zealand Prime Minister, said he will retire from Parliament at the next general election, scheduled for November 1984. He has been an MP for 21 years and was leader of the Labour Party until replaced by Mr David Lange last February.

Killer bolt

Melbourne (Reuters) - One player died after lightning struck two hockey teams during a match in Hamilton, south-west Victoria. He was one of 24 people flooded by a bolt of lightning just before halftime in the match.

Royal birth



Queen Nur of Jordan gave birth to a girl yesterday in Amman. King Hussein already has two sons by his wife and three other sons and five daughters from previous marriages.

Colony's future

Hongkong - Sir Edward Youde, the Governor, has confirmed reports that he will take part personally in the continuing Feking talks on the future of Hongkong. The colony will be put to a referendum in 1997, talks are complicated and all the issues important, he said.

Afghan amnesty

Moscow (Reuters) - The Afghan Government has announced an amnesty yesterday for some prisoners and called on insurgents to surrender. Tass said. No further details were given of the amnesty which marks the fifth anniversary of Russian-backed rule.

Tehran march

Tehran (AFP) - About 20,000 Armenians marched through the streets here yesterday to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the massacre of hundreds of thousands of Armenians by Turkish troops. Iranian security forces protected the marchers as they paraded.

Namibia talks

Paris (Reuters) - A UN conference on Namibia opens here today amid growing African impatience over the West's role in negotiating independence for the South African-ruled territory.

Paris blast

Paris (AFP) - A bomb exploded outside the office of the National Union of Unemployed Police yesterday on the fifth floor of a building in the northern sector of the city. Five people were slightly injured.

Burning protest

Barcelona (Reuters) - Catalan nationalists burnt the Spanish flag and set fire to a Socialist election kiosk after a demonstration in central Barcelona.

On Pole target

Yellowknife, Canada (AFP) - Radio contact has been re-established with Ambrogio, the Italian who is attempting to walk to the North Pole. He had been lost for five days. He is only 150 miles from the goal.

Key test for Social Democrats

Portuguese go to the polls today

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

form a coalition with the Social Democrats.

Dr Mario Soares, the Socialist leader, ended his campaigning here on Saturday night calling for a "national consensus" to tackle Portugal's economic crisis. But he did not fill Lisbon's largest square.

All the parties stopped campaigning before the midnight deadline because they judged they could not compete with the evening's Eurovision song contest. In an atmosphere of disillusionment with the country's politicians the recently formed "25 of April Association", now grouping about 1,500 officers who took part in the April, 1974, revolution, is to open its club premises here today.

Its leaders have denied they are waiting in the wings should the elections bring an government strong enough to tackle the nation's problems. But the widespread expressions of gratitude to the soldiers for ending almost 30 years of authoritarian rule indicate Portugal's politicians are now facing a test.

Dr Soares has given warning that he foresees up to two months of negotiations over a coalition because of the likely crisis today's vote could provoke among the Social Democratic leaders.

Senator Francisco Pinto Balsemão, the caretaker Prime Minister, said at the weekend he

wanted to be relieved of office in a month. President Eanes has only limited powers, to hasten the coalition building if the Social Democratic leaders insist on bargaining.

Professor Carlos Mota Pinto, the man put in to lead the Social Democrats, during the elections has his own future at issue in tonight's results.

● Prophets of doom: Portugal has had 14 Governments, ranging from Communist to Conservative, since the 1974 coup which ended nearly half a century of fascist dictatorship, Reuter reports. Today will be the tenth time since then that voters have been called to the polls.

Leading article, page 11



Down on the farm: Princess Anne admiring a pear as she chats with Mr Shuji Nojiri at his farm yesterday at the start of her visit to Japan.

Princess's farmhouse tea

Utsunomiya, Japan - Princess Anne visited a farm house near Utsunomiya about 60 miles north of Tokyo yesterday, to have a first-hand look at the life of Japanese farmers.

Accompanied by her husband Captain Mark Phillips, she arrived in Tokyo on Saturday for a week-long visit to attend the opening performance of the Royal Ballet's tour of Japan.

The royal couple visited the home of Mr Shuji Nojiri, aged 37, where they were given Japanese tea. They drove to Nikko, a hot-spring resort known for the sixteenth-century Toshogu shrine built by Shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa.

Tomorrow they will meet Emperor Hirohito and on Wednesday they will attend a dinner given by Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko.

Difficulties of Maoris given royal sympathy

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

It was a day steeped in Maori culture and tradition for the Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday when they were entertained at Te Poho O Rawiri Marae in Gisborne.

Under cloudless skies representatives of tribes and schools of the east coast presented haka and action songs on the lawns in front of the carved meeting house.

Responding to speeches of welcome, the Prince began with a greeting in Maori, a gesture which delighted the crowd. He went on to talk about the problems of adjustment and adaptability in a complex and technological society, difficulties of special relevance to the Maori people, particularly the young as they moved from traditional rural areas.

"Today we live in an era of bewildering change which makes adaption to modern conditions extremely hard", the Prince said. "Developments in technology and in industrial methods, together with the spread of urbanization and all that that means, have helped to wrench us from the sheet anchor of our past, from culture and traditional skills and those things which help to provide us with a sense of meaning."

The royal visitors moved freely among the crowd before meeting tribal elders inside the meeting house.

Prince William took the spotlight on Sunday. Making his first public appearance of the tour, the 10-month-old Prince starred before the 100 cameras of the press corps. Dressed in a lemon shirt and apricot rompers he crawled, stood, gurgled, smiled, said something that might pass for "Dada", and otherwise delighted his parents.

Zia 'sallies forth into political arena'

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

In a bylined front-page news analysis yesterday the editor of Islamabad's only English daily, *The Muslim*, said General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan's military ruler since July 1977, has embarked on a three-stage political plan leading to his emergence as an acceptable political leader by March 1984. Pakistan has been ruled for most of its 35-year history by Army chiefs.

Mr Mushahid Hussain, the editor, recalled General Zia's recent "Civic Jalsa" - another name for restricted public meetings - in the interior of Sindh and at Gujranwala in the heartland of the Punjab, and observed: "This is definitely a new style of politics which the President has embarked on after being firmly in the saddle for six years."

"The President seems to be seriously entering the political arena as one of the options available to him in the near future."

He said General Zia had decided to "discard the intention to give the country a khaki-coloured constitution - one that would provide a permanent constitutional role for the armed forces in running the country."

The editor believes General Zia has been buoyed in his political ambitions by his foreign visits since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, including his meetings with the leaders of the United States, China and the Soviet Union as well as by "the improvement in ties with India".

Several other political observers do not agree, however. They assert that General Zia will not quit his "military constituency", and will not risk any political role for himself.

Twists in Poland's politics of food

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Food is high politics in Poland. In the past when food prices have risen, regimes have fallen and sometimes it seems as if there is more political volatility in a meat queue than in the Communist Party Central Committee.

Small wonder then that Polish and Western observers have been both fascinated and confused by the latest twists and turns in the politics of food. Mr Jerzy Wojciecki, the much respected Agriculture Minister, has resigned because of "fatigue". A new anti-inflation programme entails the taxation of farmers. Warsaw bakers complain that unless they can raise the price of bread - kept artificially low for political reasons - they will go bankrupt. Rumours abound of a reduction in the meat ration from next year.

What is going on? On the surface the food economy seems to be ticking over adequately - indeed supplies appear to have improved in the past year.

Western estimates of grain production suggest that the picture has not radically changed since last year's record crop, thanks to a mild winter and early spring. Based on winter sowings, Poland should produce 19.8 million tonnes of grain compared to 21.2 million last year.

But problems are tucked away behind the figures. The immediate question is how to persuade the farmer to sell more of his produce to the state. Only a small fraction of last year's grain crop was actually given to the state (and therefore the state shops).

The farmer does not trust the Government, and he does not trust the zloty. He has plenty of money at present but nothing to spend it on - there is not enough fertilizer or machinery to soak up his income.

The reason why Mr Wojciecki resigned, informed observers say, is bound up with this dilemma. The Government has set itself two main priorities:

Fugitive caught

Warsaw (AP) - The Polish authorities announced yesterday the detention of Jozef Piniar, one of five fugitive Solidarity leaders, who met this month with Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the banned union.

PAP news agency said Mr Piniar was taken into police custody in his hometown of Wroclaw. A search of the flat in which he was hiding uncovered "anti-state" documents and large sums of Polish and foreign money.

during this austerity period: to feed the nation and to beat inflation. But one way of beating inflation, according to the Government's financial experts, is to soak up the zloties in the private sector, above all the farmers' zloties.

The various mooted possibilities - a land tax, or a generalized or specific farmers' income tax - have scared the farmers at precisely the time when confidence should have been built up. Mr Wojciecki, who had won the trust of farmers by resisting any idea of forced grain sales to the state and who had favoured a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to own and farm land, was clearly put in a difficult position. Extra taxes discourage production.

Senators to step up trade war

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The US Senate is expected to vote shortly on a Bill which, if approved, would allow the Administration to make use of wheat stocks held in reserve for famine relief as a means of subsidizing commercial food exports by American farmers.

Such a move would signal a new phase in the agricultural trade war which has been brewing between the US and the European Community. Both sides have accused each other of unfairly subsidizing food exports.

The measure is contained in the Agricultural Export Equity and Market Expansion Act, otherwise known as "The Helms Bill" after Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate agriculture committee, who has been urging the Administration to take a tough line with the Europeans on the issue of export subsidies.

The Bill also contains a

number of other provisions which are directed at the European Community's common agricultural policy. They include the mandatory export of 150,000 tons of dairy products a year and the use of up to half of the revenue from such sales to subsidize other agricultural exports.

Under the terms of the Bill the administration could make use of up to 1,500,000 tonnes of the 4,000,000 tonnes of wheat grain held in reserve for emergency assistance to countries hit by famine. The security wheat reserve was established by the Carter Administration in 1980. The wheat held in the famine relief reserve is worth between \$400m and \$500m (up to £320m).

The new measure would enable farmers to obtain cheap grain from the famine reserve and then sell it overseas at commercial rates. They are

proposing to use a hunger relief programme as ammunition in the agricultural trade war, said Mr Nick Mottern, an official from Bread for the World, a leading relief organization.

A number of relief organizations have mounted a campaign to have the provision amended before the Bill is approved by the full Senate. But it is an uphill battle for them as the Bill has the support of most farm organizations as well as many senators. It was easily approved by the Senate agriculture committee in March.

Paradoxically, however, the main ally of the Bill's opponents may turn out to be the Reagan Administration. Although broadly sympathetic with the Bill's aims, the Administration does not want to escalate the trade war with Europe before the Williamsburg economic summit at the end of next month.

Ethiopia reshuffles ministers

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), which has ruled the country since the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974, has carried out its most extensive reshuffle of government ministers and senior officials.

While it is assumed that the aim is to strengthen the government machine, the PMAC has offered no explanation for the changes, or for their timing, but they coincide with recently announced moves to prepare for the drawing up of a formal constitution for a Marxist-Leninist state, in which Ethnic and other ethnically distinct regions could have a federal-type relationship. In the latest changes, announced at the weekend, Dr Feleke Edle Giorgis, the former Foreign Minister, was appointed Minister of Information and National Guidance. He was replaced as Foreign Minister by Colonel Goshu Wolde, formerly Minister of Education.

Major Giram Yilma, the former Information Minister, is now Minister of Culture and Sports Affairs. Dr Tefere Wonda, formerly Minister of Health, was named as representative for the Eritrean region on the committee which is preparing the formation of a workers' party - the first political party in Ethiopia.

The new Education Minister is Mr Biligene Mandefor, formerly Commissioner for Higher Education, and the new Health Minister is Brigadier-General Dr Gizaw Tesfay, a renowned surgeon.

Several ministers and senior officials were given new posts last week - including Mr Shimelis Adugna, the former Commissioner for Relief and Rehabilitation, who is now Commissioner for Children's Affairs.

Political observers see the sweeping leadership changes as moves by Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the military leader, to strengthen his own position in the ruling Dergue.

It is also known that the Soviet Union favours the introduction of constitutional changes to give a clearer shape to the Ethiopian leadership through the proposed workers' party.

Tonight on Channel 4, programmes to make you sit up.



8.00 Henry Cooper's Golden Belt.

Our Every watches the best young amateurs fight their way to the top.

9.00 Vietnam.

A 12 part documentary that shows both sides of the messy conflict that could have become World War III. It studies the anti-war movements as well as the battles.

10.00 St. Elsewhere.

Light relief after Vietnam, a hospital drama with the kind of sick humour to keep you in stitches.

See for yourself on Channel 4.

4

SPECTRUM

When applied to sport, the frozen moment of a single photograph can analyse the psyche and anatomize technique. Even the humblest weekend player can learn from Borg's footwork and Mrs King's balance. These words and pictures are from a forthcoming book by Catherine Bell, the editor of *Tennis* magazine, and the sports photographer Roy Peters

Passing shots

John McEnroe

Wimbledon 1982

McEnroe is improvising a volley. His style is no style. It's instantly recognisable, and as hard to grasp as all those dinks and chips he's always hitting. He dangles the racket, drags the head lower than his wrist, waves it away from his body, jumps at the ball, does all the things you're not supposed to do. McEnroe makes nonsense of the usual geographic descriptions of grips - Eastern, Western, Continental. He holds the racket whichever way he wants. His grip here is a little higher on the racket handle than textbooks would advise, but this gives him extra feel and flexibility - "wristiness". In spite of his vocal aggression, John's always been a gentle player, a deflector of volleys and precise placer of ground strokes. He's 5ft 11in tall and weighs around 165 pounds, but he often gives an impression of frailty. He's prone to injury, a young man whose physical and mental condition are interrelated and finely tuned.



Billie Jean King

Birmingham 1982

If all the tennis players who ever lived were wiped from human memory and only Billie Jean King remained, you could reconstruct from the perfection of her technique the complete competitor. Here Mrs King is running into a backhand volley, her finest shot. Volleys are the heart of

aggressive, intelligent tennis, and no one, man or woman, ever volleyed better than Billie Jean, or ever understood so well the aesthetic and tactical possibilities of this beautiful stroke. Today the arid strategies of topspin have forced everyone back to the baseline and taken away the impulse to move forward.



Martina Navratilova

Wimbledon 1982

Miss Navratilova is on her way out of the Centre Court after beating Chris Lloyd and winning her third Wimbledon singles title.

The flowers are an equivocal intrusion. They remind us that the woman athlete remains a woman first.

Most of her life Martina has been caught in this dilemma, for in every respect but sheer muscle power she plays tennis exactly like a man. Our culture won't give her the freedom to do this unless she makes regular symbolic gestures asserting her femininity. So she dyes her hair blonde and wears make-up.

Once on the tennis court Miss Navratilova must forget all these gestures and try to win through strength and intimidation.



Ivan Lendl

Paris 1982

Ivan Lendl resembles a marionette temporarily detached from the puppet master. He's about to strike his fearsome forehand on the loose red clay of the Stade Roland Garros. Only a man of great strength can hold the racket like this. Lendl's Continental grip almost breaks the wrist coming under and over a high bouncing ball and whipping it with topspin. Lendl's personality invites persiflage; he's proud and inflexible, a high-checked Slav from the industrial heart of Czechoslovakia. Justice dictates that this sometimes pompously upright youth should be caught by the camera in a most ridiculous position.



Passing Shots will be published in paperback by Frederick Muller on May 26, price £4.95

Chris Lloyd

Wimbledon 1982

Left: Everything is excluded from this portrait of Chris Lloyd. There's no ball, no racket, no sense of place. It's difficult even to say which stroke is about to be played.

Chris is shorn of glamour, nearly the pure athlete that part of her always wanted to be. Her hair's draped down with sweat, her face is boyish. The modest earrings are a gesture to fashion, to the well-groomed modern woman she'll change back into in the dressing room.

Mrs Lloyd looks like herself as a young girl; those wide and steely eyes would fix an opponent and will the victory. For several years almost all women players were afraid of her.

Growing up as a famous person Chris developed a personality at once reserved and sociable, vulnerable and calculating, introspective yet immediately affable. She can express a cynical wit, and in the next breath, a cosily conventional sentimentality.

She likes to be called "Chrissie", an incongruously dainty name for a woman so fundamentally tough.

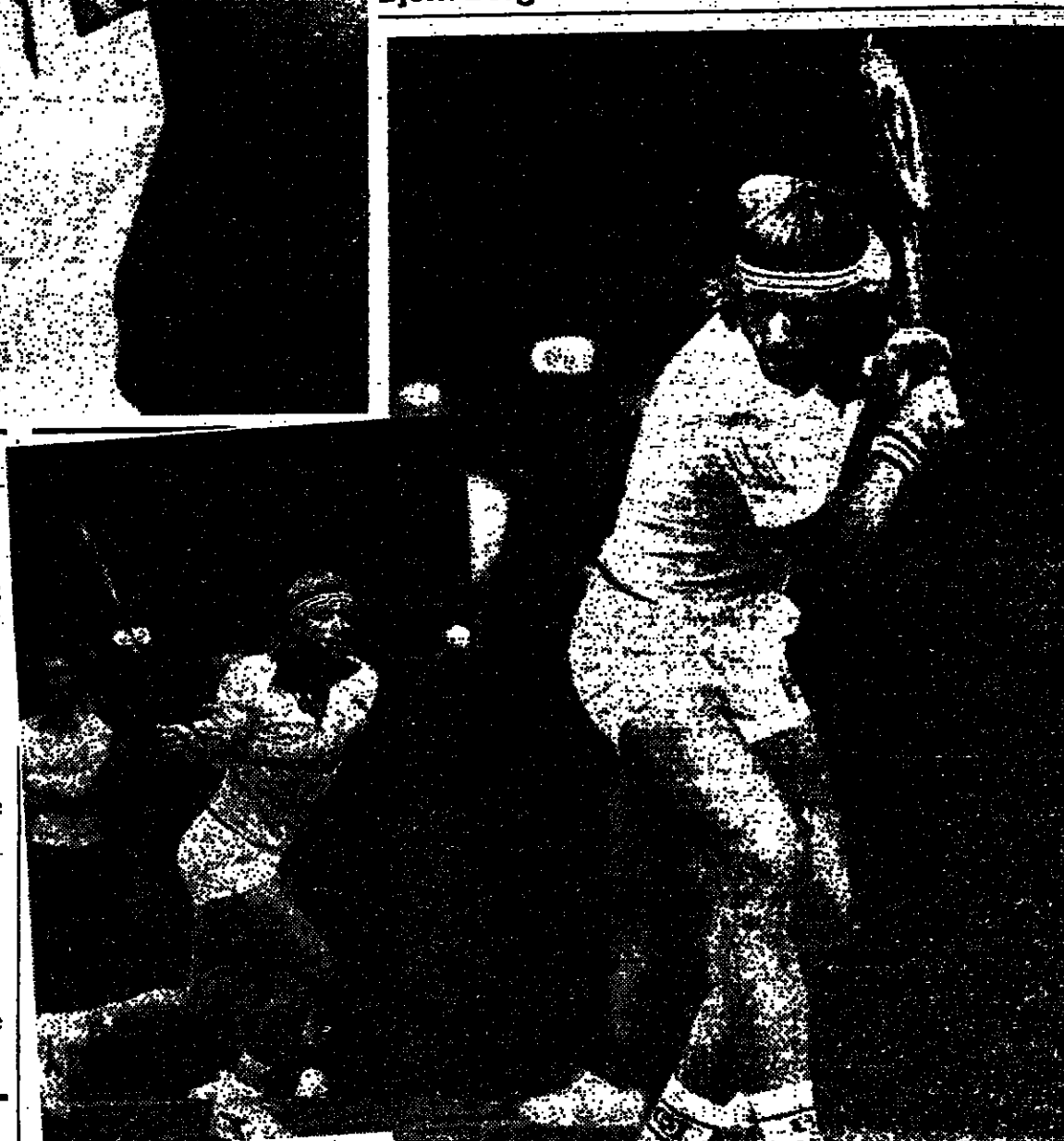
Tennis is a game of recurring crises - again and again you'll see this fearful look in a player's eyes as the future hangs on a split second.

Above right: Chris invented this backhand drive. Her position calls to mind golf, or cricket. Her balance is perfect - right leg



braced against the body rotation following through high and controlled. Unlike Jimmy Connors or Borg, she doesn't release her left hand at any time during the shot. This is because her whole manner of execution is more static, and there's no room for improvisation in movement. Mrs Lloyd usually dictates the tempo of play so well that she is seldom caught having to change her mind at the last minute, so a gallery of stunts will show her hitting exactly the same stroke thousands of times. She won many tournaments because her backhand was absolutely reliable; she learned new strokes and different strategies but it was always there to fall back on. Every great champion has a certain way of hitting the ball which is a signature. This is how Chris signed herself into history.

Bjorn Borg



Wimbledon 1981

Above right: Alone, Bjorn Borg changed the way tennis was played during the 1970s.

He didn't invent topspin, and he wasn't the first player to use a double-handed grip, but no man had used either of these techniques to such effect. Here, Borg is hitting his two-handed backhand on the Centre Court at Wimbledon. Experts said his style could never adapt to grass, which is slippery and makes the ball bounce low, but Borg won Wimbledon five times between 1976 and 1980, proving that for a man of genius the surface only exists to be subdued.

All Borg's wizardry is in this picture. Precise footwork has brought him a perfect position to

meet the ball early; the high, straight backswing will allow him to hit up and over the ball with heavy spin and good disguise.

His concentration is perfect. Those close-set eyes in a somewhat beaky face give away his secret weapon. Many other tennis players have copied his style; no one can share the rigorous application of his mind. Around his neck and on his wrist Borg wears the gold chains which are obligatory personal adornment for the modern male tennis professional, but on court he is without frivolity, immune to distraction.

Above left: Borg hasn't missed the ball here. He's swung it away and closed his eyes. The power of impact and the need for

balance have detached his left hand from the racket; his legs are caught half way into that step which will bring him around on the baseline to see what's happened to his shot and to prepare for a reply. Although Borg's eyes are shut he's always known where the ball is. This picture shows very clearly the points in Borg's physique which made him the ideal tennis player: broad shoulders, muscles bursting out of his shirt on his serving arm, narrow hips, perfectly muscled legs. In 1982, after 15 years of constant tennis, Borg left the game suddenly. He never publicly discussed his troubles, he never complained. He simply became indifferent. The mastery, the elemental dominance, will never come back.

The greatest little railway in the West

Great Little Railway Journeys 8: Paddington to Old Oak Common. Although only a mile or two in length, the line from Paddington to Old Oak Common runs through some of the most interesting industrial scenery in London. Jos Pinter's Biscuit Factory, the Nu-Quik Tyre Change Depot, The Harrow Road Jeans Mart, Albert Spana's Wig and Mask Theatrical Second-Hand Exchange - all these line the route, as a memory of Britain's ever-changing role in world affairs. They are all now, unfortunately, closed.

The line was originally built to take workers from their homes in Paddington to their places of employment at Old Oak Common, or vice versa, and was planned by Isambard Kingdom Brunel as part of his grandiose scheme whereby travellers could go by train to Bristol, embark on the Great Britain to go to America, and travel on by the world's first all-metal airship, the Royal West, to the town of Brunel, Pennsylvania, which he planned as the world's first steam-powered civic centre.

At Paddington Station, built by Brunel himself, with the help of 40,000 Irishmen, I inquire the platform for the train to Old Oak Common. A friendly Caribbean employee points, and moments later I am sitting in the comfortable purloons of a first class carriage, still stamped BR in memory of Brunel Railways.

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

Bath Spa, stopping at Reading. Thank you, Yes, Ha. Many passengers, like myself, start up from their seats at the discovery that we are on the wrong train, and moments later we pass Old Oak Common at about 60 mph. It appears that it is now the custom to announce the destination of the train after its departure, to promote ticket sales among those who are taken hundreds of miles out of their way. But philosophically I sit down to enjoy the scenery of the line which was driven by Brunel with fanatical energy through such suburbs as Ealing, West Drayton and a place whose name I did not catch, but which boasts the Second-Hand Piano Foundry, perhaps built by Brunel himself.

Near Reading I am honoured by a visit from the guard himself, a Welshman in spectacles who informs me that a second-class ticket to Old Oak Common does not entitle me to sit where I am. Brunel's tremendous eye for detail is not dead yet. I hand over a cheque for £11 and am resituated in the second class, where I take the opportunity of studying my fellow passengers.

They seem to fall into three groups. Those reading the *Sun* newspaper and hitting their children over the head when they become noisy. Those listening to popular music on their headphones, which allow the drum beats to be heard two carriages away. And those business persons studying documents called Export Market Feasibility Studies.

Near Didcot, whose museum now houses many of Brunel's old engines, a new voice greets us over the loudspeaker. "Hello, Um... This is the Buffet Attendant. The buffet is now open in the middle of the train for the sale of light refreshments, snacks and drinks. Thank You." Immediately, all my neighbours arise and form a queue stretching for three carriages.

At the entrance to each carriage there are automatic doors which open and close at one's approach. The one nearest to me is kept permanently open because a young traveller has placed his rucksack on the spot which controls the door, resulting in the most tremendous draught. I go to engage him in conversation and he tells me with rough good humour what I can do with myself.

We are now going through the most tremendous scenery, which it is just possible to make out through the windows which have been smoked grey and adorned with dust, no doubt the very same dust excavated by Brunel's men these many years ago. Fields on either side, then more fields, and, round the corner, different fields, though very similar at first sight to the previous fields. Great country for field-lovers.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 45)

ACROSS:

- 1 Eucharist taker (11)
- 2 Fast drink (7)
- 3 Number relationship (5)
- 4 Boy (3)
- 5 Month dividers (4)
- 6 Region (4)
- 7 Lubricant container (3,3)
- 8 Among (4)
- 9 Additional sign (4)
- 10 Band (6)
- 11 Large deer (4)
- 12 Fling (4)
- 13 Female (3)
- 14 Dwelling place (5)
- 15 Small rodents (7)
- 16 Axiomatic condition (11)

DOWN:

- 1 Olesgious tree (5)
- 2 Sound enhancer (4)
- 3 Christmas (4)
- 4 Stiff paper (4)
- 5 Normal (7)
- 6 With matching sides (1,1)
- 7 Sun and planets (5,6)
- 8 Number system (6)
- 9 Turf (3)
- 10 Firm grasp (6)
- 11 Tedious (7)
- 12 Pamper (3)
- 13 Death notice (3)
- 14 Prophet (4)
- 15 Preparation for resurrection (4)
- 16 Acid (4)

SOLUTION TO No 44

ACROSS: 1 Shrimp 5 Mornia 8 The 9 Whistle 10 Dodge 11 Kane 12 Put into 14 Thence forward 16 Perfume 18 Also 21 Croft 22 Ubbah 23 Rep 24 Leary 25 Tenancy

DOWN: 1 Sewa 2 Rega 3 Mother country 4 Steep 5 Mediterranean 6 Madonna 7 Adenoid 13 Atypical 15 Ear hole 17 Erup 19 Sura 20 Dory

PROFILE: Iris Murdoch

Crusading in a fantasy world

FINDINGS

A weekly series reporting on scientific research: EXPLORATION

Adudadus do very nicely in Greenland

Along the cold fringe of East Greenland, any young Briton is likely to be known to the locals as *adudadus*. The term, which is entirely complimentary, dates back to the British explorer Gino Watkins, who hunted among the ice floes in these parts, introducing himself to the locals with a formal "How do you do?" The greeting was turned quickly into a noun and has stuck ever since. Since Watkins's day (he was drowned after falling out of his kayak), there have been a number of *adudadus* from the British School Exploration Society and other expeditions undertaking projects and exploring the same magnificent arctic wilderness for bona fide scientific reasons.

The other day, as my dog team pulled to a panting halt in the centre of a sealing village north of Angmagssalik, I met a group of wind-bronzed young *adudadus* led by Mr Ray Ward, economics teacher at Kingston Grammar School. They had been out on the far glaciers and snow-choked valleys for several weeks measuring the depths of snow to discover the potential for hydro-electric schemes.

It must have been clear to them that lifestyles have changed in Greenland since the innocent days of Gino Watkins, and the honest Greenlanders might now reply "Not very well, thank you" to his polite *adudadus*. Brigitte Bardot and a host of other conservationist-minded folk have, they feel, ruined the international market for seal skins, which is the mainstay of many local economies in Greenland. Alcoholism is a severe problem, and in a community where rifles are as common as walking sticks, the murder rate is climbing alarmingly. There is some political pressure to return "to the old values", but the era of the video, of smart fashion and the cordless telephone is not easily discarded.

Taking to the air

A new way of exploring hostile ground covered by ice and cut by fast-flowing rivers will be tried out this summer by an expedition that plans to combine the merits of canoes and micro-light aircraft. An international team, led by Mr Paul Vander-Molen, a British research engineer and widely experienced canoeist, is to make a south-to-north crossing to reach the ice cap of the Tasikjira volcano and a fast trip down the wild waters of the river, shooting a 178-foot-high waterfall by attacking the canoes to the undercarriage of the micro-light aircraft. "The nautical will become the aero-nautical," Mr Vander-Molen confidently declared. Finance for the project is coming from Britain and France, and films will be made.

The explorers will arrive in July at the point on the Iceland coast where the first settlers set foot in AD 877. From a lake in the centre of the glacier, kept from freezing by geothermal warmth, the powered hang-gliders, fitted with floats and flown by Mr Gerry Green, will survey the surface of the glacier, while *adudadus* penetrate beneath the ice. They follow a descent into the crater of the Tasikjira volcano and a fast trip down the wild waters of the river, shooting a 178-foot-high waterfall by attacking the canoes to the undercarriage of the micro-light aircraft. "The nautical will become the aero-nautical," Mr Vander-Molen confidently declared. Finance for the project is coming from Britain and France, and films will be made.

With alpine-style

K2 may rank as only the second-highest mountain in the world, but it has the reputation of being by far the hardest of the 14 8,000m peaks to climb. No British expedition has ever succeeded on it, and no one has managed to make an "alpine-style" ascent. Doug Scott's strong nine-man team has set out, sponsored by the Mount Everest Foundation and the British Mountaineering Council to achieve both these aims. "It is very snow, remote and unquestionably a harder proposition than Everest," said Scott, who should know, having climbed Everest by its south-west face and taken part in 17 Himalayan expeditions, including two attempts on K2.

Formation diving

Beneath the hotels and pleasure palaces of Grand Bahama lies an exquisite, flooded labyrinth known as the Lucayan Caverns, home of the rare *Speleocetes lucayanus*, a crustacean thought to be extinct 250 million years ago. The caverns are to be the target for an expedition of cave divers which will include Mr Rob Palmer, of Bristol, who is expert in the exploration of the flooded "Blue Holes" in the Bahamas. The expedition is approved by the Grand Bahama Government. He described the caverns as "incredibly spectacular", with "pristine, under-water formations that will be vulnerable to any haphazard or careless exploration." It is only about 60 feet down, five miles of passages which have not been completely explored, filled with the most beautiful limestone shapes. The Bahamas National Trust, however, rightly banned anyone from going into the caves. "With the rapid spread of interest in scuba diving, the caves are concerned that the fragile environment could be ruined. The expedition will plot the caverns and suggest a suitable management plan," Ronald Fair

Iris Murdoch publishes *The Philosopher's Pupil* on Thursday. It is her twenty-first novel. Her first *Under the Net* was published in 1954. *The Sea, The Sea* (1978) won her the Booker Prize for fiction.

First we were to meet in Steeple Aston. Her place. Then we were to meet in London. My place. Next, there was the question of a French trip. Not, for me, unfortunately. Finally, we compromised on Salisbury. By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Bayley's hostess for the weekend, the widow of a distinguished artist, Iris Murdoch, married John Bayley in 1956. He is Warren Professor of English Literature and a Fellow of St Catherine's College, Oxford.

I was sorry to miss Steeple Aston. In particular, the romantically wild garden through which John Bayley draws paths with a lawnmower. I would have liked to see for myself the greenhouse wherein sits the tank in which Iris Murdoch luxuriates, watched over by a classical bust.

Water is a pervasive theme in many of the Murdoch novels. In early books such as *The Bell* a lake casts an almost magic presence over the action. In *The Sea, The Sea*, it is even more central. In *The Philosopher's Pupil* much of the action, including the ghastly denouement, takes place at a once Roman spa.

As it turns out, the house in Salisbury is built, English cottage turned Venetian palazzo, right over the deep waters of the River Avon. Professor Bayley regrets that they have not yet swum there. But the regret is tinged by confidence in the future. Sitting above the fiercely swirling water, Iris Murdoch looks a very pretty person. Huge bright blue eyes and child-like complexion. A china cat.

She wears a blue and white blouse with a full. Not the expected philosopher's uniform. Iris Murdoch was for 15 years a lecturer in Philosophy at St Anne's College, Oxford. She has published three books of philosophy: *Sartre, Romantic Rationalist, The Sovereignty of Good* and *The Fire and The Sun*.

Two informants had tried to give me a descriptive preview. One had suggested someone "kindly, like a philosopher and not at all like a wicked author." The second saw her as a perfect reflection of her novels, "like a character out of Hieronymus Bosch - the very nicest character." On the whole I am inclined to agree with the first estimate. Though it must depend on one's image of a philosopher. The *Philosopher's Pupil* is a man, John Robert Rozanov. He has, in his creator's words, "despaired of philosophy." "Who could fathom Plato's mind? Unless one is a genius,"

philosophy is a mug's game. There were, not even any books any more. All the books were inside him now. Even the familiar act of reading had been taken from him. It had been his fate, not to be interested in anything except everything. If he could live another hundred years, could time reverse its sense and lead him gently into a precious clarity? As it was, he saw through every notion that he had ever had; the 'insights' won by a sustained asceticism appeared to him now as so much rather nasty stuff which he had made up out of nothing. Artists have beauty and nature at their side, but a philosopher must contain his world inside his head until... it be unified, clarified... until he can become a god... or else perceive that all is nothing.

THE PHILOSOPHER'S PUPIL, p.130

The words echo Miss Murdoch's reported view that philosophy is almost impossible to do. The Iris Murdoch who sits above the waters of the Avon denies any relationship to her tragic catalyst. (The only character Miss Murdoch admits to drawing

Unless one is a genius, philosophy is a mug's game

from life is the very human dog in her latest book.) Philosophy is difficult, she admits. Particularly her sort which does not divide the intellect from the will. Much recent philosophy sees things of the intellect as "clear and hard and factual" while the will and the emotions are "peripheral and unclear" and that is where the religious instinct is presumed to lie. She says rather regretfully, "I've gone along my own road. I'm really very separate now from Oxford philosophers, which is a pity in a way.... The excitement of discussing philosophy has passed out of my life...." Not however out of her mind, nor out of her books, nor even, as a matter of fact, entirely out of her life. In November, 1982, Iris Murdoch gave the Gifford Lectures in Edinburgh with the title "Metaphysics as a guide to Morals".

It is inevitable that any discussion with Iris Murdoch on philosophy soon leads to what would generally be called a discussion of religion. Having discovered that I am "croyant" a certain freedom seems to enter her conversation. She does not believe in God, "a personal God", which is why Buddhism has such an appeal for her. She does believe in "spiritual change". Christ is no more than a prophet. But the Christian mythology is, in her opinion, very important as "a mode of understanding". The religious dimension is essential. Here she bewails the lack of religion in China and, indeed, in England now. She cites as very dangerous the modern notion "that good and evil can be blurred" and that we should learn to accept the dark side of our natures. She says that "the absolute difference of good and bad" is almost a definition of religion. She pictures human beings "stretched out between these things. So one's always in movement."

scribes the effect her novels produce. The characters seem to walk on a tight rope, with only darkness below and no particular end in view. Yet sustained by the very act of staying on and, as Miss Murdoch says, constrained to be always in movement. Our conversation, therefore, moves to the novelist. Though in a sense any attempt to separate novelist and philosopher is artificial.

But first there is an interruption in the form of a cheerful John Bayley appearing out of the rain. He has just bought an excellent tweed cap which his hostess later reveals as a product of the Bayleys' favourite shop - "Good as New". We stand up to stretch and peer admiringly at the soaring confidence of the Salisbury Cathedral spire.

One of the most pleasurable aspects of reading Iris Murdoch's novels is the feeling of confidence she inspires. The voice is so sure, instantly recognizable in the way Pinter or Powell are recognizable. She acknowledges this, though gently pointing out that she's had a few years to work on it and also warning of the danger of complacency, the barrier to progress. She brings to our discussion a wave of enthusiasm and, yes, enjoyment in the battle for creation. None of the fashionable anguish here. She rather gives the impression of a well-equipped warrior going into battle with blood up and determined step.

The novel is, after all, her great love and has become her life. The traditional novel, that is. She describes it as a "hall of reflection", a great huge place, "a happy form" which can encompass every sort of comedy, of tragedy. Shakespeare was the first novelist... or perhaps Murasaki Shikibu, who in the eleventh century wrote *The Tale of Genji*, the great Japanese masterpiece, should be allowed first place. This attitude makes clear why her books cover so many pages.

Of the last three novels by Iris Murdoch, none falls below 500 pages. *The Sea, The Sea* is 501 pages. *Nuns and Soldiers* is 505 and *The Philosopher's Pupil* is 576.

Critics, even those essentially admiring, have suggested that editorial work would improve the overall impact. But you need volume to fit in all the different aspects of life, as Miss Murdoch describes life. She sees herself as belonging to the Anglo-Russian tradition. She reads the great nineteenth century novels over and over again - "They feed one". She has little time (perhaps literally) for contemporary fiction. But she feels it is in an "interesting" state, the writers unnecessarily concerned with technical problems when all they need to do is "relax" and learn the great form that is there waiting for them. Perhaps her critics would feel she, herself, is too relaxed. Certainly there is a modern brand of impatience which does not wish to chew over images and character in the Murdoch manner.

I find her enthusiasm exhilarating, making me appreciate what an exciting teacher she must have been. (A clever and ebullient friend of mine attending St Anne's in the 1960s had always painted a happy picture of their tutorials together.)

Humbly offering the information that I have written one novel to rival hers in length and another inspired by the story of Anna Karenina, I am rewarded by an encouraging "Well done!" Novel writing, it is clear, is a matter of constant hard work and hard thought. Inspiration is another matter altogether and cannot be profitably discussed.

"Hard reflection" is the way she describes the early planning stage for a new novel. By the time this stage is over, every chapter is created in note form, every character moulded. And, as a crowning nod, given names. Characterization and the shifting relationships between a fairly large cast of characters are the meat of Iris Murdoch novels. She likes "a wide lens", distrusts the novelist's tendency to concentrate on one or two characters whose point of view thus dominates the whole work. *The Philosopher's Pupil*, for example, although pivoting on the relationship between master and pupil, also moves its axis on to other characters. Indeed, the book is some way forward before it becomes clear that George, the pupil, has no worthwhile existence outside the sphere of his teacher, John Robert Rozanov. And it is only gradually that John Robert himself takes command of the centre of the stage. Other themes, notably the death of one child set against the continued existence of his cousin, are allowed to seem more important than they turn out to be. Again, a kind of delaying tactic which goes counter to most modern writing, in which an immediate impact is sought.

But this is part of the Murdoch game. The eye of perception alters continually, subtly. There are tricks, red herrings. Even the God-like author does not get it right all the time. A described action may be modified by the word "probably". Besides this, the flow of the story is often interrupted by a narrator. Miss Murdoch says this is to make it easier to do some moralizing and also to give another perception to the story. *The Sea, The Sea* is notable for an enthralling opening section which is immediately denied:

"I had written the above paragraph of my memoirs, when something happened which was so extraordinary and so horrible that I cannot bring myself to describe it."

With such teasing in mind, it is interesting to hear Miss Murdoch talk admiringly about the virtues of the "straightforward" novel. My suggestion that her novels are as straightforward as an eel is countered with the advice that "There are a hundred ways to tell a straight tale". And it is absolutely true that a cold-blooded analysis of most of her stories (very difficult to achieve) will reveal a surface narrative which could be in the old Boots lending libraries. However, she has chosen to uncover the underside of her stories, the dark secrets and obsessions which motivate the characters. This is where the oddness that people pick out as the Murdoch characteristic comes from. "The drama of the human heart" make the central matter of her books, she says. And the human heart is notable for its passion for secrecy.

Much of what she uncovers is, unsurprisingly, sinister and frightening. Iris Murdoch's preoccupation with the battle between good and evil ensures that there are always unpleasant figures hardly rising above the ever-threatening darkness below. Yet there is hope too. The struggle continues. Battered and bruised, the human spirit fights on.

In simple terms of readability, Iris Murdoch has two great gifts. She has a superb ear for dialogue, treating her conversationalists like dualists wielding words like rapiers. Backwards, forwards, in and out. It takes a supple mind to bring off several pages filled with nothing but the spoken word. The other gift is the unfashionable one of description - both of geography and character. She is not afraid of adjectives and will sometimes use a whole row of them without self-consciousness.

"Earlier Alex had again seen the pretty vixen reclining while four fluffy milk-chocolate brown cubs with light blue eyes and stubby tails played tig on the lawn."

THE PHILOSOPHER'S PUPIL, p.423

This visual concern was doubtless why *The Bell* was chosen to be turned into a recent television serial. And, indeed, why it worked so well, despite the very untelevisual psychological complications of its characters. Broaching the subject of description with Miss Murdoch, I am met with a lovely smile and "I like descriptions. I like places."

Our own visual imagery has now included a swan on the river, hailed in a friendly way by Iris Murdoch as "Old boy". This for some reason reminds me of the subject of children. The Bayleys have none. "Alas!" And Iris Murdoch was herself an only child, enjoying a "perfect trinity of love" with her mother and

father. Elsewhere she has said that her lack of siblings led her towards creating characters. Her fictional child - they usually come one at a time - is a powerful being, possessor of a secret greater even than the adults. This might be a product of Miss Murdoch's own solitary childhood imaginings, or of a lack of familiarity with the more ordinary, loud-mouthed variety parents learn to treat with contempt.

Raising the subject, I am answered by the unarguable point that "the entry of a child into any situation changes the whole situation". Besides she admits cheerfully to enjoying creating children and "to having a very nice child" in the book she's writing at the moment.

Yet again, I'm struck by the gleam of excitement. Another book in progress, more creation. More reaching to something beyond the everyday. Art, in her view, is one of the best ways of getting to the meaning of life. True art, that is, good art. For, as Plato pointed out, art can be a terrible trickster...

But before we return inevitably to "religion and morals" - Iris Murdoch's own summary of her major concerns - I want to stay with the everyday and the longer. What are her views on politics, for example, and the changing role of women? It sounds terribly dull, even to my

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Life and works

born Dublin, July 15 1919
educated at the Froebel Educational Institute, London; Badminton School, Bristol; Somerville College, Oxford.

Her books:
1953 *Sartre, Romantic Rationalist*
1954 *Under the Net*
1955 *The Flight from the Enchanter*
1957 *The Sandcastle*
1958 *The Bell*
1961 *A Severed Head* (play, 1963)
1962 *An Unofficial Rose*
1963 *The Unicorn*
1964 *The Italian Girl* (play, 1967)
1965 *The Red and the Green*
1966 *The Time of the Angels*
1968 *The Nice and the Good*
1969 *Bruno's Dream*
1970 *A Fairly Honourable Defeat*
1970 *The Sovereignty of Good*
1971 *An Accidental Man*
1973 *The Black Prince*
1974 *The Sacred and Profane Love Machine*
1975 *A Word Child*
1976 *Henry and Cato*
1977 *The Fire and the Sun*
1978 *The Sea, The Sea*
1980 *Nuns and Soldiers*

Her plays:
1970 *The Servants and The Snow*
1972 *The Three Arrows*
1980 *Art and Eros*

Her poems:
1978 *A Year of Birds*

ears, but we persevere. She used to vote Labour but now finds herself out of tune with modern politics. More particularly, she is a very convinced European, feeling the Common Market vital to Britain's interests "politically, spiritually and commercially." Earlier she had responded to my half suggestion that her vision of life might be limited after 30 years living in Oxfordshire by pointing out very firmly that she had travelled to America, Russia, Australia, Thailand, Singapore, India, Iceland, Japan, to name but a few.

Feminism she commends, though she is very opposed to its segregationist elements. She notes that the position of women, children and homosexuals have all improved over the past 20 years despite the prophecies of the disintegration and decay of our society.

Later, over lunch, I get a real whiff of crusading feminist spirit. And it is, of course, only after we have drifted back to "religion and morals". Like all sensible people, Iris Murdoch does not enjoy the formal interview. Before going to our meeting, I'd been given a clipping which opened: "Iris Murdoch makes good books and bad interviews. Possibly because of our position over the racing river (a way of ultimate escape?) our talk was relatively painless. However it was not till lunch that I realized that Miss Murdoch absolutely loves talking. And that she is very good at it - particularly when there's a move towards argument."

An extremely good restaurant ("Oh isn't food a pleasure!") in the wet streets of Salisbury is the location. Subjects, as they say, are wide-ranging. Herpes is an improbable opener. But it is the subject of women for the priesthood that really arouses the passions. Iris Murdoch is the most vociferously in favour and myself - daring pupil and teacher - most determinedly against. Although our hostess, daughter of a bishop, might claim more knowledge of the matter.

Argument, conversation was always the hallmark of the Oxford don. Perhaps it still is. The conversation of ideas is unfortunately rare among my contemporaries. Soon we move from the sex of priests to the more general question of spiritual belief. Excitement rises, the core of the matter probed more and more fiercely until in a haze or words and ideas I hear Iris Murdoch cry, "Christ is real! Christ is real!" John Bayley looks somewhat anxious, feeling, possibly, that the statement is open to misunderstanding. But I presume to see what she means.

Christ is real for her in the way a work of art is real. During the interview she had said, "I believe we live in a fantasy world, a world of illusion. And the great task in life is to find reality." Christ's story is one way of arriving at the truth which Miss Murdoch perceives as a religious sense. In her dramatic words, both philosopher and artist are present. It confirms my belief that, whatever the individual strengths or weaknesses of this year's Murdoch offering, the novel has seldom had a more original, more energetic or serious practitioner.

I am also reminded with astonishment of the warning of a friend who had sat next to Iris Murdoch at a dinner party. "She doesn't speak. She hums."

Rachel Billington

THE TIMES DIARY

Bloods up

This week's issue of *The Field* suggests that Michael Foot may have raced off after a false scent when pledging his party to ban hunting. It reports a debate attended by more than 100 trade unionists at Huddersfield Friendly and Trades Club. Proposing a motion to fight any party that tried to drag field sports into politics, G Woodrow catalogued trade union involvement in the Colne Valley Beagles. "One of the ex-Masters, Keith Brook, a VFW shop steward, huntsman P Wood, Nupe, whippers-in C Riddale, AUEW, M Fitton, Nupe, on the committee K Vickerman, Textile Workers' Union, T Reast, Fire Brigades Nupe, myself, AUEW... Master of Mink Hounds, G O'Brien, Nupe, huntsmen and whips from the unemployed." Woodrow's resolution was passed, unanimously.

Bolt from the blue

That the right-wing historian David Irving should question the authenticity of the Hitler diaries occasions no surprise. In a recent issue of *The Bookseller* his publishers, Macmillan, re-advertised his offer of £1,000 to anyone who could provide documentary evidence to refute any statement in his book *Hitler's War*. If the diaries are accepted, the money must be surely at risk.

Singalongakiri

Dame Kiri to Kanawa goes pop this week, with a recording label all of her own. Her single, released this week with the catalogue number KANA-1, is culled from her classical album, *Songs of the Auvergne*, which has climbed higher in the LP charts than any previous Decca Classical release. It is currently at No 57.

What's in a name?

There could be some nominal confusion over the new issue of *The Fiction Magazine*. It has a story entitled "Outward Journey" topped with an etching of a departing train. It is by Peter Parker. Not that Peter Parker: this one is a writer who was a contributor to *Gay News*. Then Clive Sinclair makes two contributions: one is an interview feature, the other a gift of £3,000 sponsorship. Not the same Clive Sinclair, though. One is the young novelist and literary editor of *Jewish Chronicle*. The money is from Clive Sinclair of the microchips, and very welcome it is since the Arts Council has drastically cut the magazine's grant for the coming year.

Lacklustre

Britons, you fail to fire the literary imagination. The verdict is Anthony Burgess's, voiced in his Afterword to *The Heritage of British Literature*, to be published next month. In a survey of post-war writing Burgess says Britain produced nothing to compare with America. There are no British writers to compare with Bellows, Mailer and Gore Vidal. Braine, Waugh, Silhouette and the 1950s new wave were not "a true literature of revolt", though he does have guarded praise for such Commonwealth writers as Doris Lessing, V. S. Naipaul and Patrick White. "The trouble generally with the English novel was the lack of anything to write about", he postulates. "I myself had to go to Malaya to learn how to write fiction."

● Architect Peter Benton tells me that a copy of the Building (1983 Amendment) Regulations 1983 which he recently purchased was three pieces of paper six inches by nine and a half, costing £1.25. "I think," he says, "my next set of building regulations will have to come from the Japanese."

Chew choice

I have it from the British Food Export Council's latest bulletin that tiffins are much in demand from Israel, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. The Israelis like them dried, which must be tough, and the people in Gaza prefer them in decorated tins. The Lebanese, in contrast, crave more whisky, and who can blame them?

Nitpicking

Mike Scott wrote to his local (Bletchley) DHSS requesting a new national insurance card and enclosing a cheque to cover seven self-employed stamps. He has so far received the following replies, in order: the new card; a note acknowledging receipt of his letter; a receipt for the cheque; and a note asking the name and number of the person whose card is to be credited with the sum. He has replied, and is expecting quite a lot of correspondence shortly.

When Susan Baker gives her next concert, at the Fairfield Halls on May 3, there will be a new score of violins. It was fashioned by a Sicilian prisoner of war held in an African camp during the last war. Baker was given it by an elderly fan who worked in a music shop and who paid £2 for it out of sympathy when the shop manager turned away a woman anxious to sell. She says the instrument is beautifully made, but being all hard Malawi wood does not resonate as well as traditional maple and pine. John Bunyan, Baker reminds me, made a tin fiddle during his imprisonment, and it is still to be seen in Bedford Museum. Naturally Baker has a tin fiddle of her own. It is made of two Spanish olive oil tins and an Australian beer can, carries a seal of purity, and "makes a fine oleaginous sound".

PHS

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Don't jump, Denis, don't jump!

During the Mau Mau rebellion in Kenya in the 1950s, there was much talk, usually after the ladies had left the room, of an oath taken by those admitted into the inner ranks of the insurgents. The Mau Mau oath, so the story ran, was of such unspeakable and obscene barbarism in what its swearers pledged themselves to do, and was accompanied by acts of such frightful bestiality as part of the ceremony, that it put the initiates beyond the furthest limits of civilization, and left them ready to do any act of darkness required of them thereafter, so entirely dehumanized were they by their participation in the grisly rite.

It has often occurred to me since that there are parallels for the Mau Mau oath, even in our comparatively genteel political process, in the form of actions which, once taken, leave the taker unable to find any good reason for refusing any subsequent demand made upon him, however unthinkable it would have been only a short time before.

I am in blood

Steepp'd in so far that, should I

Returning were as tedious as

go o'er.

I have argued in the past that the Suez affair of 1956 was the Tories' Mau Mau oath; the shameless, unqualified, naked lying on the part of the Government - to Parliament, to the country, to the press, to the United Nations, to the Americans, to Nato, to the troops themselves - severed a tenuous but real link with principle that until then had survived all the exigencies and necessary compromises of politics, and in doing so robbed Britain of something that has never been subsequently restored, though in recent years Mrs Thatcher has shown some sign of meaning what she says and vice versa.

All of which brings me to Mr Healey. Whenever the election takes place, and on whatever grounds it is fought, he will be the key figure in the Labour campaign. Mr Foot is a burnt-out case, taken seriously by nobody on his own side or the other; Mr Shore's attempts to produce a coherent and realistic economic policy for his party have succeeded only in reinforcing the truth of the well-known computer-programmers' acronym GIGO ("garbage in, garbage out"); Mr Wedgwood Benn is the figure whom the other Labour



Labour in turmoil, as seen by Cummings in the Daily Express last week

leaders will conspire to pretend does not exist; Mr Merlyn Rees needs no such conspiracy, for he doesn't exist, nor is it necessary to invent him; Mr Silkin - but I think I had better stop here, lest I should say something we would all regret.

Mr Healey, however, is real, intelligent, skilled, forceful and almost ready. I say almost. "Oh, the little more, and how much it is! And the little less, and what worlds away!" For Mr Healey has a decision before him, and it is no light one. He has to decide whether he is going to take his own Mau Mau oath.

SOME say that he has taken it already, that he is forsworn beyond redemption. I think not, despite some ominous evidence; but his decision cannot be put off much longer, nor concealed once taken. The nature of the decision he faces is obvious. Is he going to reject his party's policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament - which includes not only giving up our nuclear weapons but expelling our Nato allies from Britain - or is he going to stomp the country telling lies? I put it as bluntly as that because there is no third choice for him, wriggle as he may. If Mr Healey says he believes that Britain ought to disarm on her own, he says that which is not true, for he does not believe it, and no amount of

drawing attention to the small print in the draft manifesto (so full of weasel words, incidentally, that it might have been written by Sir Harold Wilson himself) will save him. Mr Healey believes in unilateral disarmament; he believes that unilateral disarmament is not, as CND falsely claims, a step towards that goal, but the negation of it; he knows that the inevitable consequence of Britain's abandonment of nuclear defence is our ultimate withdrawal from Nato, and he believes that we should not withdraw from Nato. In short, he believes that his party's policy is dishonest in conception, wrong in principle and disastrous in effect, and to assert that this is what he believes it is not necessary to bug his pillow; everything he has said and done for 30 years puts it beyond argument.

Now he stands on the cliff edge of his personal doom. Once he jumps, Newton will do the rest; once he begins to say he supports his party's policy of unilateral disarmament, the Mau Mau oath will take irreversible effect, and he will be indistinguishable from Mr Hattersley. Mr Hattersley, after all, is no more in favour of his party's nuclear policy than is Mr Healey, but neither is he in favour of unilateralism, yet he will support both the one and the other without the smallest disturb-

ance to his equanimity if he thinks such action will bring him closer to the attainment of his political ambitions.

And is Mr Healey to step into the same mire, to insist, for the same ignominious reason, that black is white, hot cold, treachery loyalty, surrender resistance, war peace, falsehood truth? I was in the hall at Scarborough when Hugh Gaitskell promised to fight and fight and fight again to reverse his party's disastrous commitment to nuclear surrender, and I watched those who thought like Mr Healey applaud that speech, while Gaitskell's enemies - who were, and are, Mr Healey's enemies and this country's enemies - sat with their arms folded. The policy was reversed, and Mr Healey played his part in its reversal. Nothing in principle has changed since then, save that Britain's commitment to Nato and its policy has become more important, and her abandonment of her commitment has become concomitantly more dangerous.

Mr Healey, of course, has not abandoned that commitment. The question is whether he is going to pretend that he has, whether, that is, he is going to cross a river which, for his character as an honest, honourable and patriotic man, will be not the Rubicon, but the Styx.

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David Watts, in the first of a series, reports on the rag-tag army fighting communist insurgents in the Philippines

Purging the peasants as if Vietnam had never been

Davao, Mindanao

Torches bobbing in the darkness, four boys walked through the tropical night. From the roadside came a stream of machine gun fire. One was killed immediately. The three others lay wounded.

As a jeep pulled up to help them, the gunmen waved the driver away. "We'll take them to hospital," they said. But they never got there. The following day their bodies were found stabbed to death after a night in a "safe house" used by the Philippine Constabulary. The boys had been out frog hunting.

Soon after, the agent alleged to have led the killers shot three men in broad daylight in front of a school in the provincial town of Tagum. After representations he was reluctantly arrested, only to be released within two weeks.

Nasario Lasaca was already a convicted murderer when he joined the paramilitary intelligence ranks of the constabulary. He was recruited in the war against the communist New People's Army (NPA), and he is one of the reasons why the Philippines is the only country in Asia where communist insurgents are gaining ground.

Lasaca's methods are repeated all over the Philippines. Wherever the communists are active, civilians are "borrowed" or "salvaged" in Filipino terminology by the military. They are never seen alive again.

The Government's proclivity for using men like Lasaca, who kill, torture and maim, and then decline to discipline them, is convincing the hard-pressed people of Mindanao that they cannot expect justice from the local military and government. The threat from the NPA seems to have convinced some police and paramilitary units that anything is justified in maintaining law and order and rolling back the insurgents.

In a gruelling, rainless summer, the burned red-brown hills of Mindanao long stripped of timber, typify the exhausting problems of the whole country. The rains will come in the next month or so, but relief from oppressive one-man rule and economic policies which disproportionately benefit the multi-nationals and the Manila elite is nowhere in sight.

Falling world prices for its principal exports - coconut oil, sugar, fruit and minerals - over the past few years have left the government on the defensive.



A gun-toting Filipino woman who is a member of the rag-tag anti-communist forces

Mindanao sees a concentration of the effect of Manila's unwillingness to rein in some of its more corrupt elements and its concentration on development of a kind which pays little heed to local needs. Earlier this year, nine battalions of troops were brought in to fight the NPA.

Regular units, notably the marines, have earned a good reputation with the local people for correct behaviour. When one marine unit prepared to pull out of a provincial town recently the mayor begged them to remain and burst into tears at the thought of being left to the mercies of the Constabulary and the undisciplined Civilian Home Defence Force, a rag-tag force recruited from local Barrios armed with American M16s.

"The Constabulary is being used to run the country, and is thoroughly corrupt," a priest told me. "They are not innocent of this in Manila. It goes to the highest levels of the government."

The people have nowhere to seek redress except the church or the NPA. In the Davao area, representations to the church rarely get top-level attention: the bishops prefer to keep their links with the rich and politically influential.

When a priest asked his bishop to take up the case of three young people detained as NPA suspects and tortured for three days, the bishop quickly changed the subject.

struggle is the last resort for us, but we use arms only against the manipulators."

Ironically, the NPA man learned fundamental western rights from an American teacher: for seven years from 1971 he was a guerrilla in the hills before taking up political duties. He is engaged and is buying a house with a bank loan, but sees nothing inconsistent in that. "Filipino-style communism," as he calls it, "has a little bit from Mao and a little bit from Marx." He insists that the NPA is largely self-sufficient, acquiring most of its weapons from the armed forces, but receiving some financial aid from "friendly nations". The NPA is at the start of a three-year build-up of military pressure in the south.

At any one time there are thought to be about 7,500 guerrillas under arms throughout the country, about 1,300 of them in Mindanao.

Support for them is often through fear. They have to live off the people, even collecting their own taxes, and can offer little except some hope for the peasants that one day things will get better. The guerrillas seldom last more than five years; then either disease or a bullet gets them. That has not deterred dozens of well-educated university graduates from joining their ranks.

In Mindanao, the communists do not have to seek for military issues: most are created for them by low wages and government policies which force more and more peasants off their lands in favour of agribusiness interests.

The military tackles the war as though Vietnam had never been. Thousands of peasants have been moved from their farms to "strategic" villages in the hope that this will deprive the NPA of support and protect the people. The villagers hate the military for it. Anyone who does not agree to the transfer is branded as an NPA supporter and his house is burned down.

The farmers, used to plenty of space, now find themselves jammed next to their neighbours, their rudimentary hygiene spreading disease in such a close community. In one hamlet 200 children died of disease in a week. Farmers must walk miles to their plots in the morning and return before the curfew at dusk.

In other areas in south-east Mindanao, land coveted by the big corporations has recently seen a big increase in military operations. The soldiers are there ostensibly to protect plantations and other investments from the NPA. But to many it looks as though the army is intent on clearing out the people to enable mining or timber companies, under presidential powers, to take over the land. The landless become potential recruits for the NPA.

The government persists in trying to tackle fundamental socio-economic problems through military means, and the military, judging by recent operations in the north of the island, is intent on treating the people as guilty of being NPA sympathizers until proved innocent.

In one recent sweep through three hamlets, the army so terrorized the population that 200 families fled. Hearts and minds will never be salvaged this way.

Tomorrow: The Government's relationship with the Roman Catholic Church.

Gerald Kaufman

Caught in the Act of giving grants

Quite rightly, Sir Donald Kaberry, the chairman of House of Commons Standing Committee D, told me that I was out of order in seeking to pursue a constitutional point while we were debating the sittings motion. This motion simply authorizes the committee to meet at 10.30 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. However, while MPs were discussing it, we stumbled into a major matter of substance whose implications are much more substantial than the scope of the legislation under consideration.

The Local Authorities (Expenditure Powers) Bill is, by any standards, a minor measure. Forty-one lines long and consisting of two clauses, it aims simply at putting right one of the innumerable mistakes to which the Department of the Environment is victim. The Government has launched an urban development grants programme, aimed at assisting local authorities to promote employment in their areas. Embarrassingly, however, the Secretary of State, Mr. Tom King, discovered that although there was no doubt about his powers to pay the relevant moneys to the local councils, there was considerable doubt about the legality of the councils passing on that money as grants to businesses.

Accordingly, this little Bill was introduced, as Mr King put it, to "clarify" the situation. In the *Lexicon of King's English* which I shall shortly be issuing for general edification, "clarify" will be defined as: "To seek to put right in a hurry legal provisions which are faulty because they themselves were rushed through Parliament without proper consideration."

Sadly, however, it has done no such thing. In fact, after a week of committee debate, the position, far from being clarified, is more confused than ever. Certainly, relevant grants by local authorities will be lawful if made after the Bill is enacted. The trouble is that councils may have made such grants before the Royal Assent is obtained. Sir George Young, the Under-Secretary, told the committee that "the schemes are proceeding" and that they are safe to do so because "the Bill gives cover to local government expenditure in the financial year 1983-84".

Unfortunately, no Bill can give cover to anything. Only an Act can do that; and this Bill will not become an Act until the middle of next month at earliest. Six weeks of the financial year will have elapsed, in which time the schemes will have proceeded - but without the protection of the indemnifying Act.

When the Under-Secretary was asked what he intended to do about

that problem, he soothingly assured us that, really, nobody needed to worry at all. Even if there was some doubt about the legality of local authorities' grant-making powers during this penultimate period, the Secretary of State could issue a certificate which would remove the ability of the district auditor to pounce.

Have the councils, then, heaved a sigh of relief and agreed that everything is now all right? Far from it. The auditor is not their only problem. If they have been making payments during this period before the Bill becomes law, they are still liable to legal action by any businessman who is not getting a grant and fears that he may be undermined by a grant-aided competitor; and the Secretary of State has no power to issue a certificate preventing such litigation.

So the local authorities, who asked for this Bill because they felt the previous legislation was defective, now find that their indemnifying legislation, even before it is enacted, may be defective as well. We are no doubt about his powers to pay the relevant moneys to the local councils, there was considerable doubt about the legality of the councils passing on that money as grants to businesses.

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When the Under-Secretary was asked what he intended to do about

Charles McKean

Denmark Hill for the salvation line

Straddling the south-London railway, Denmark Hill station was a glorious 1866 vintage Tuscan palazzo. As such, it was part of British Rail's inconvenient heritage in a part of London where heritage is not the first concern of the inhabitants.

The first concern - after unemployment, blight and lack of housing - lies just across the road from the station, sternly fronted by the commanding statues of General and Mrs Booth frozen in full flight: it is the Salvation Army training headquarters. The second concern is King's College Hospital and the Maudsley, spreading inexorably like a tumour through this part of the metropolis. The third is Nunhead cemetery, a few moments along the line.

In the early 1970s, Denmark Hill station retained considerable vestiges of its former glory. The booking hall was a veritable palace; there was fine ironwork, brickwork, glazed arcades, a good booking office, a stationer's shop, a grand, long-case clock, and some original timber fittings worth little by line, British Rail let it go. The clock stopped, and then, vanished; the stationers closed; the timberwork remained unpainted and rotted; some was sawn off; broken windows were sealed with hardboard; rubbish collected on the embankment, and puddles on the platform.

Day by day commuters witnessed the accelerating consequences of neglect. By 1976, the station's condition had reached such a state that it was selected to represent London in the national *Facelift* competition organized by *The Architect* magazine (now defunct).

One entry, by Tom Justice, extrapolated from the hill-palace nature of the station, and proposed statues, a fountain, cypress trees, pedimented station signs, and a painted Sistine-chapel roof beneath the road bridge which passes over the platform - all at least two years before such ideas became accepted as mainstream post modernism (and he only meant it as a *jeu d'esprit*).

Despite considerable public interest, there was no response from British Rail. They had relegated Denmark Hill to eventual replacement by the steel and glass boxes that pass for stations in Maze Hill and Streatham.

Indeed, the underlying policy had been clearly stated by the then Southern Region general manager: his contribution to *Railway Stations of the Southern Region*: "the complete reconstruction with modern methods and materials is the only way to get rid of a picture of an outdated form of transport in the public's mind".

A godsend for British Rail arrived one night in March 1980 when an arsonist burnt out the roof of the booking hall. Enter British Rail, hastily, with gangs of workmen to make things safe and by doing so demolishing far more than the arsonist, destroying spectacular

carved stonework and patterned brickwork, and the upper parts of the walls. The rump was sealed off, clearly destined for a journey to the goods yard in the street.

The Camberwell Society, on being told by a BR public relations spokesman that they should, instead of complaining, "put their money where their mouths are" to pay for the difference between a modest station and the restoration of the old, promenade the streets collecting money.

They opened an appeal which raised £4,000 from local people. Jeremy Bennett, the society's chairman, aided by Jack Jones (former TGWU general secretary) and Terry Jones (former Monty Python) then handed the cheque over to the Southwark Environment Trust, which would become the agent in further restoration, together with the cheque for £4,000 duly blessed by Sir John Betjeman.

Enter Sir Peter Parker, with an environmental panel from BR. Perhaps the local initiative could extricate BR, quite literally, from a hole, by taking on responsibility for the station building. Negotiations took a year, at the end of which the Southwark Environment Trust had an option of a 40-year lease on the building, a beneficial occupier, and an interesting pattern of financial contributions: £34,000 raised by itself through collections and private charities; £56,000 from the Historic Buildings Council for the restoration of a listed building; £20,000 from the GLC; and a grant from British Rail to match the total pound for pound (probably still cheaper for BR than the costs of demolition and rebuilding).

The proposed use for the building is a real ale pub with beer brewed on the premises. The locals are enthusiastic since the building is being restored with a community use.

Most importantly, the fabulous ground work undertaken by the Camberwell Society should make it easier for similar organizations to do the same elsewhere. For once British Rail had grasped the concept of leasing out, its staff proved particularly helpful. On the other hand, not every community is blessed with former trade union general secretaries or Monty Python, so they will have to rely on this case as a precedent.

Unfortunately, not every station building for which British Rail has little affection can be so easily isolated and re-used.

On Saturday the Civic Trust presented the Camberwell Society with its *Pride of Place* commendation for their efforts to save the station, at a ceremony - complete with real ale - in the station booking hall. Bows began to be made, things were said, the restoration work, it could be said, was a new era for one railway heritage.

Architecture Correspondent



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FIRMNESS PAYS AT COWLEY

The return of industrial strife to the Cowley factory of British Leyland was taken in many quarters as the most convincing evidence yet that the economy was truly on the mend. Within weeks of the company launching a car with great sales potential, the Maestro, and being for the first time in some years in a position to promise its workers not retrenchment and cutbacks, but production bonuses and secure jobs, 5,000 of that same workforce went on strike and brought the plant to a standstill.

Four weeks later the two aspects of the dispute which stand out most are its apparent triviality, and the obvious bitterness and resentment that many of the strikers feel towards BL.

Now, with the prospects of a return to work brighter than at any time since the strike began, thanks to a night of hard bargaining between the management and the leaders of the two main unions involved, Mr Terry Duffy of the engineers and Mr Moss Evans of the Transport and General Workers, the question is whether that bitterness will force a continuation of the strike, or whether the proposed settlement will allow more normal industrial relations procedures to reassert themselves.

But first, how does the settlement deal with the seemingly trivial issue which provoked the strike - the desire by the management to make all its employees work "bell to bell" and so to abolish the established practice whereby they all clocked

off a few minutes early at the end of each shift?

Here the company has gained a victory. It seems to have persuaded the union leaders that it is not going to withdraw its demand, that all its employees must work for the full time for which they are paid. So it should be in a position to secure a further increase in output, which on the company's figures is equivalent to a hundred more cars a week, worth an extra £25 million a year. Moreover, the company can fairly claim to have demonstrated its willingness to stand firm and to face a potentially crippling strike at a time when it would have been all too easy for it to return to the practice of the 1960s, when strikes were simply bought off in order to keep the production lines moving. It has therefore given its answer to many who believed that the determination of management to manage would crumble once the unions reasserted themselves and were no longer cowed by the threat of unemployment.

But if this strike at Cowley is a symptom of a much deeper discontent - and this seems to be the case - then dealing with the symptom cannot count as a total victory, unless there is a parallel attack on the basic disease.

Here too there appears to have been a change, a concession by management which, though outwardly not significant, is enough of a breakthrough for the union leaders to feel that they

too have some honour from the proposed peace. What management has agreed to is the creation of a joint committee which will examine the state of industrial relations in the plant with the specific purpose of finding out what has gone wrong at the plant. This should be in union eyes at least provide the key for a less autocratic style of management - a shift away from the take it or leave it approach, personified by Sir Michael Edwards, in favour of consultation and agreement.

Whether or not this is desirable depends on whether both sides can be trusted. Management must not use it as an excuse for weakness; unions must refrain from being mindlessly obstructive. And it has to be said that the precedents on both sides have not always been encouraging.

That said, it is surely in the interests of both sides to try to move forward along this path so that the resolution of this conflict does not merely fertilize the seeds of the next one. Management seems to understand this, as indeed do the trade union leaders. They still have to persuade the shop stewards and the strikers themselves. But if the shop floor does indeed want job security coupled with a greater degree of harmony than existed before, then the settlement holds out that promise - provided both sides are prepared to work at it. On that basis the men should accept the settlement, and they probably will.

SOUTHERN EUROPE TURNS PALE PINK

April 25 in Lisbon: the day of the red carnations, when the young officers of the Armed Forces Movement overthrew the half-century-old dictatorship, opening the way to independence for Portugal's African colonies and to democracy for Portugal itself. How long ago that seems. Today is in fact the ninth anniversary and the Portuguese are voting again, but the novelty and excitement of it have long since worn off.

Democracy is not mainly to blame for economic troubles which Portugal shares with the rest of the world. But elected governments have not been notably successful in managing those troubles. The expected victory of Dr Mario Soares's Socialist party in today's poll will not, if it is confirmed, be a sign of renewed confidence in proposals for social betterment through democratic change. The electorate will be calling back to power a man and a party who have failed before (in 1976-78), for little better reason than that things have now got even worse under their opponents.

The Democratic Alliance, in power since 1979, has been steadily disintegrating since the tragic death of its leader, Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, in the air crash of December 4, 1980. Its

situation has been compared to that of Spain's Centre Democratic Union which collapsed last year while still in office, and was kept alive on a kind of political respirator just long enough for Señor González's Socialists to win the election. Both were governments of the centre-right which had responded well enough to the political requirements of a particular moment in their country's history, but possessed neither a coherent ideology nor an organized base in the country. Both lost all cohesion and credibility once separated from their founder-leader (in the Spanish case Señor Adolfo Suárez who was forced to resign in 1981).

There are differences, though. In Spain the UCD had governed continuously since the first post-Franco elections. The Socialists were a new, untied force, still carrying with them a great many hopes for change even though they were careful to campaign on a very moderate programme. Also, Spain's weighted system of proportional representation made it relatively easy for them to win an overall parliamentary majority. Dr Soares in Portugal has little hope of achieving that, and has said that even if he did he would prefer not to govern alone. His electoral platform consists almost entirely of warn-

ings about the gravity of the country's economic position and the years of austerity that lie ahead.

The most probable outcome seems to be a centre coalition led by the Socialists and joined as junior partner by the Social Democrats, the leading party in the outgoing Government. But the Social Democrats are in such disarray that it may take them a month or more to decide whether to join such a coalition and, if so, under what leader. The election, in short, may well solve very little.

The same is true of the early general election which the Italian Socialists seem intent on forcing in their country, despite the opposition of their own elder statesman, President Pertini. Their leader, Signor Bettino Craxi, has pronounced a death sentence on the Government of Signor Fanfani, which is less than five months old, without saying clearly either what is wrong with it or with what kind of government he would like to replace it. He hopes, evidently, to benefit from the tide that has brought gains to Socialist parties throughout Southern Europe - ironically at a time when the French Socialist Government, which started the trend, is already floundering in grave economic difficulties.

A BLEAK ANNIVERSARY

Soviet plans to enforce "celebration" parades in Kabul on Wednesday to mark the revolution five years ago were cancelled and a pro-Soviet Marxist regime are threatened by Afghan insurgents. The occupation forces in Afghanistan have again been reinforced and are now striking at insurgent positions in regions around Herat in the north-west. Heavy fighting is also reported near the Afghan-Soviet frontier, and earlier this month three guerrilla factions, formerly bitter rivals unable to cooperate, joined forces to ambush a Soviet military convoy. The cost to the USSR in casualties and resources is growing.

But despite the involvement of the United Nations Organization in the quest for a political solution, there is no indication that Mr Andropov wishes to reverse the policy of his predecessor. For all the opprobrium of world public opinion, the USSR now has troops only a few hundred miles from the Indian Ocean, and is in a strong position to influence the course of events in neighbouring Iran and Pakistan at a time of internal crisis.

Five years of leftist and Marxist-Leninist rule might have brought some progress to backward Afghanistan. The coup d'état which overthrew President Daud on April 27, 1978 installed a coalition government opposed to "feudalism". It banned forced

marriages - and any marriage of a girl not yet sixteen. The crushing debts of the poorest peasants were cancelled, and usury was abolished. Much-needed agrarian reforms were promised.

Within months the Khalq party ousted its Parcham rivals and took sole control. Attempts at progressive reforms continued, with women gaining full legal rights, for example. But trying to implement agrarian reform by crude restrictions on individual land holdings showed a complete lack of understanding for the complexities of Afghan peasant farming. The population was further alienated from the regime by the thousands of Soviet "advisers" in Afghanistan, with their colonialist attitudes and determination to install the same Soviet "civilization" enforced in the 1920s in the neighbouring Muslim lands of the USSR.

The "white man's burden" was an acceptable attitude for many enlightened people in the last century, but even then the Russian Empire was not an attractive example of imperialism. The present Soviet version would be particularly repugnant to a devout Muslim country, even if it were not being imposed by force of arms. The thousands of casualties inflicted during operations against the insurgents and in atrocities against village populations have instilled in Afghans a hostility against the USSR which will live for

generations even after the fighting stops.

The Soviet invasion of December 1979 certainly ensured that the Kabul regime would remain an obedient Soviet puppet. But it could not put an end to the vicious factional strife among the Afghan Marxist-Leninists, and it certainly guaranteed that in the minds of most Afghans the regime was damned as the mouthpiece of a hated alien invader. Material progress for the population is clearly impossible while Moscow continues with its colonialist war.

Suggestions that a change of policy would follow when Mr Andropov succeeded Brezhnev have proved premature. There has been a tendency in the West to exaggerate "indications" such as the increased reporting in the generally reticent Soviet press of casualties suffered by Soviet troops in battle with the insurgents. In fact some of the cases recently given prominence in Moscow newspapers were actually the same "heroic deaths" reported months before for propaganda reasons in the local Soviet press.

The governments of the West and the non-aligned countries must redouble their efforts to persuade the Soviet leaders that much more is to be gained by withdrawing their forces than by reinforcing them. No doubt Mr Malolom Rifkind will be stressing this message on behalf of Britain in Moscow today at the beginning of his official visit.

Motive for attending Prague conference

From the Chairman of the National Peace Council

Sir, Your leader, "The peace of Prague" (April 21), was noteworthy and a confirmation that disagreement on important issues has given way to unity of spirit which vitiates mutual understanding and 'conciliation'. I do not refer to your remarks on the World Peace Council but to those directed at "people concerned with day to day management of the CND", one of our member organizations.

To assume malign intent or manipulative wizardry is somewhat presumptuous (although handwringing is not unknown) especially by those whose own political preferences do not encompass an urgent or constructive approach to disarmament issues.

A phenomenon like CND might be expected to provoke curiosity and sober analysis rather than denunciation but even quite reputable critics, such as the Bow Group, have failed to see the openness of the peace movement to get hold of the real facts, on which credible opinion should be based.

For anyone who knows people like Joan Ruddock or Bruce Kent, or who has witnessed the dedicated energy of their colleagues, the insinuations and attacks on their integrity are incomprehensible and deeply disillusioning. They serve a popular and growing movement which is not susceptible to manipulation or anything resembling the discipline with the political parties.

The peace movement is not interested in "one-sided disarmament". It is interested in initiatives which would start the disarmament process moving after 35 years of fruitless multilateral negotiations. Joan Ruddock surely has a point when she criticizes the Government's record. Certainly international tension and conflict has not noticeably diminished and armaments have increased in both numbers and sophistication throughout the world without cease since 1950.

Had we been invited we would have given serious consideration to sending an observer to Prague as we did to the World Peace Council's conference in Warsaw in 1977. This would have been in the context of having a more vigorous presence at the European Nuclear Disarmament conference in Berlin next month which has drawn vitriolic condemnation from the Soviet Peace Committee.

This body, like so many commentators here, has failed to comprehend the nature of the non-aligned and independent peace movement and its concern for harassed countervailing in Eastern Europe. But if politicians from opposing parties have to collaborate to make our system work, and if governments with diametrically opposed philosophies striving towards military superiority can still maintain diplomatic links and jointly run international agencies, who is to suggest

that it is improper or worse for non-governmental organizations to seek contact with and information from the peoples and institutions who share our common interest in averting nuclear war?

Peace is too important to be left to only governments. Official peace committees and the World Peace Council being what they are, those who go to Prague should be capable of distinguishing between government-inspired messages and the fruits of dialogue with real people. There are also some harsh truths which need transmission. Not to try would be irresponsible.

Yours faithfully,
TONY SMYTHE, Chairman,
National Peace Council,
29 Great James Street, WC1,
April 22.

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative)

Sir, Bruce Kent is quick to protest (April 22) that the issue of CND's attendance at the World Peace Council's forthcoming jamboree in Prague is not quite as simple as it was made out to be in your leading article of April 21.

I fear it is Mr Kent's own approach which is dangerously simplistic. He justifies cooperation with Moscow's "peace" apparatus on the grounds that CND supports organisations disliked by the Russians. So what? He himself presumably supports the Roman Catholic Church and parliamentary democracy, both disliked in Moscow. Hence his special value on a communist platform decked out with every non-communist banner that Moscow can muster.

Even if Mr Kent cannot understand what a scoop his presence in Prague will represent for the WPC, I am sure it was a point fully appreciated by the hard left which now has such a significant presence within the mysterious inner councils of CND.

Certainly Mr Kent is right to emphasise that we must continue to try to communicate with the Soviets but he and his colleagues should understand that the World Peace Council is an instrument of one-way propaganda rather than two-way communication. Together with a group of parliamentary colleagues, I attempted yesterday to communicate with the Soviet delegation now in London to participate in the Anglo-Soviet round table discussions.

The very hard line taken by Academician Tikhvinski and his team would surely have convinced all but the most starry-eyed or purblind CND supporter that peace can only be preserved by serious and responsible negotiation rather than by participation in Soviet propaganda fests and one-sided Western disarmament.

Sincerely,
RAY WHITNEY,
House of Commons,
April 22.

with all cassettes, radio, wedding ring and my husband's silver Parker pen. He visited a sauna that fateful afternoon. Nothing was searched or gone through!

Having been round the world over the past 27 years I had to come to the freest, most civilised country in the world to have this revolting and deeply hurtful experience.

Feeling absolutely frightened and insecure my stay in London, to which I had looked forward with great joy and expectation, has been spoiled. The police, just like the police in Seville, seem powerless to control and stop the thieves which are round and about London town.

Sincerely,
CORONA MARKS,
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany,
Belgrave Square, SW1,
April 7.

Trade with Japan

From Mr James Y. Bourlet

Sir, In dealing with Japan, British interests differ greatly from those of other EEC members.

Primarily, this arises because Britain's "comparative advantage" lies in "invisibles", whilst that of Germany and the other members lies in manufactures. Strong "invisible" exports from Britain to Japan result in an overall surplus on current account year after year - in 1981 nearly \$2bn. Other leading Commonwealth countries, though for different reasons, also run surpluses with Japan - Canada nearly three quarters of a billion dollars in 1981 and Australia/New Zealand a similar sum.

In contrast, the rest of the EEC runs heavy deficits - in particular, Germany, which Bundesbank figures showed had a current account deficit with Japan in 1981 of \$3bn.

The EEC Commission stance here in Tokyo is to emphasize visible trade deficits (arguing for Japanese export restraints, higher prices in Europe and increased penetration for manufactures into Japan) and completely ignore "invisibles".

Correspondingly, one can observe a major campaign by German exporting companies in Japan - everywhere one now sees BMWs, Mercedes and VWs - and German wine is available in all "off licences". German exports to Japan increased dramatically during 1982.

One result of this is that German-Japanese industrial links are being greatly strengthened; witness the rapidly increasing direct investment by Japanese companies in Germany and the dramatic fall in the proportion of Japanese-EEC investment coming to Britain - down to only 12 per cent in 1981. Another result is that Japan will take steps to reduce "invisible" imports, perhaps by deliberately "assisting" shipping and insurance, etc.

Britain must state her own requirements independently in Tokyo. The Japanese are perfectly willing to oblige (as they did in limiting car shipments) and "bar-

Letters to the Editor

Temping myth of party manifestos

From Lord Alport

Sir, As all political parties are in the process of producing their manifestos for the next election, it is an appropriate moment to try to dispose of the myth of the manifesto.

The manifesto of any party is at best a statement of its aspirations in the event of its being returned to power and at worst an attempt to fool most of the people most of the time. It is not a commitment to any detailed policies, nor does it entitle a future government to carry out every item in its manifesto regardless of current public opinion of the changing character of the national interest. No party - and least of all a party in opposition - can foresee the practicalities of power for a year, let alone five years, ahead.

The myth of the manifesto was given some substance, strangely enough - by the late Lord Salisbury's doctrine that the Conservative majority in the House of Lords would not oppose in principle any legislation coming to it from a Labour government with a majority in the House of Commons, provided that the measure had been embodied in its election manifesto.

I suspect that Lord Salisbury was

more concerned for the continuation of a second Chamber in the British Parliament than he was with constitutional proprieties.

When the electors of this country vote at an election they do so, not because they necessarily agree with or have even read all the small print of the party manifestos, but because in their judgment the time has come either to get rid of the present government or to give it a few more years of power.

Those who give a party a majority at an election - the so-called floating voters - are influenced by the previous government's record, the personalities of the various parties, both national and local, and an instinct as to where the public and their private interests lie.

It would be a pity if the late Lord Salisbury's brilliant essay in constitutional pragmatism were thought to justify successive governments in giving effect to every detail in their election manifestos. After all, we know that there is always a temptation to try to fool some of the people some of the time.

Yours faithfully,
ALPORT,
House of Lords,
April 19.

Minister and shares

From Lord Cockfield

Sir, In the House of Commons on March 30 Mr Dennis Canavan, MP, sought to introduce a Bill to prevent any takeover of Anderson Strathclyde plc by Charter Consolidated. In the course of his speech he suggested in the clearest terms that my public denial that I had abused my position as a member of the Cabinet and of the Government by dealing in the shares of a company which was seeking to take over Anderson Strathclyde was untrue. I need not emphasize the gravity of this allegation. It is without a scintilla of justification.

The facts are that on November 6, 1974, four and a half years before I became a minister and seven and a half years before I became Secretary of State, I added to my small portfolio of Stock Exchange holdings 2,500 shares in Charter Consolidated. I have retained these shares in unchanged beneficial ownership since that date and retain them still.

On April 6, 1982, I was appointed Secretary of State for Trade. On

April 9, 1982, I requested my bankers to arrange the transfer of all the shares I owned into their name. The transfer was duly carried out and all my shares are now held in the bank's name.

So far as the Charter Consolidated affair was concerned, I decided that even though my small shareholding represented only 0.0025 per cent of Charter Consolidated (ridiculously referred to by Mr Canavan as my "vested interest") I should take no part in the decision on the reference and I have played no part in it. I have neither been consulted nor expressed any view about any official decision relating to it.

Mr Canavan apparently observed that the entry in the company's register relating to the shares in my own name had been closed. He failed to note that the same shares were held in uninterrupted ownership by a nominee so that there had in fact been no dealings of any kind with my shares on my behalf.

Yours faithfully,
COCKFIELD,
House of Lords,
April 21.

Aid to Third World

From the Director of Voluntary Service Overseas

Sir, We were interested to read Professors Bauer's and Yamey's views on aid and development published in Monday's issue of *The Times* last week (April 11). Their assertions that "aid cannot significantly promote Third World development nor relieve poverty" will surprise the villagers of Abora Patoako in Ghana, who have increased their own food supplies through initially using the skills of a VSO agriculturist; and the Eritrean refugees who have requested training by a VSO mobile building unit so that they can construct their own schools and health centres in the South Sudan; and the Nepali weavers who are expanding their markets and increasing their sales with the assistance of VSO volunteer, Pam McLaughlin; and the many millions of other people

throughout the Third World who are increasing their own self-reliance and capacity for self-determination with technical cooperation from western development agencies.

Western aid has been an indispensable part of the means through which the people of the Abora cooperative, the Sherkak building unit, Dhankuta village industries and many more community initiatives throughout the Third World have achieved some economic and social progress for themselves. And because these projects exist, others of the poorer people in many parts of the world have some hope for a better future.

Aid is effective if channelled in the right direction. The people of Abora, and Sherkak, and Dhankuta will tell the learned professors so.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK JUDD, Director,
Voluntary Service Overseas,
9 Belgrave Square, SW1,
April 15.

Endangered species?

From Mr Christopher Ward

Sir, As Fleet Street is never at its most accurate, when a select committee of the House of Commons as a representative of a national voluntary body, I am aghast at the suggestion that television cameras might have been allowed admission to the proceedings.

Their presence would have radically altered the whole atmosphere of the session at which questions were answered freely and frankly without any inhibiting factor, such as would have been provided by the presence of cameras. As the whole of the oral evidence was published verbatim in the committee's report, it is difficult to see what public interest would have been served by the measure proposed yesterday in the House of Commons.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER WARD,
Globe House,
Church Street, Shropshire,
April 14.

In camera

From Mr H. Justin Evans

Sir, In 1957, with a colleague, I gave evidence to a select committee of the House of Commons as a representative of a national voluntary body. I am aghast at the suggestion that television cameras might have been allowed admission to the proceedings.

Their presence would have radically altered the whole atmosphere of the session at which questions were answered freely and frankly without any inhibiting factor, such as would have been provided by the presence of cameras. As the whole of the oral evidence was published verbatim in the committee's report, it is difficult to see what public interest would have been served by the measure proposed yesterday in the House of Commons.

Yours faithfully,
H. JUSTIN EVANS,
Globe House,
Church Street, Shropshire,
April 14.

Sotheby's 'synergy'

From Mr Michael Vallety

Sir, When Geraldine Norman described (April 15) Sotheby's use of the term "synergy" to explain the perceived lack of understanding in the proposal by Mr Cogan and Mr Swid, she quoted Webster's definition: "combined action or operation (as of muscles or nerves)".

Perhaps your correspondent underestimates Sotheby's mastery of transatlantic jargon which, she suggests, may be distorting communication between the parties. Professor H. Igor Ansoff, of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, used the word "synergy" to describe "an effect which can produce a combined return on the firm's resources greater than the sum of its parts - frequently referred to as 2+2=5" (*Corporate Strategy*, Pelican, 1981 p75) and accepted usage by, for example, John Argenti and D. E. Husey.

It is, therefore, apposite in relation to a takeover, merger or developing a new product. Sotheby's, in alleging an absence of synergy, may be giving faint praise. Yours etc,
MICHAEL VALLETY,
2 Prospect Place,
Holly Walk,
Hampstead Old Village, NW3.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 23: The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Federation of Equestre Internationale, left Heathrow Airport, London this morning in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight to attend the Volvo 1983 World Showjumping Cup Finals in Vienna and as President of World Wildlife Fund International, to attend a meeting with Officials of World Wildlife Fund - Austria.

Mr. Brian McGrath is in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the departure of The Sultan of Oman and bade farewell to His Majesty on behalf of Her Majesty.

April 24: The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Mr. Brian McGrath, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this evening in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight from Austria.

CLARENCE HOUSE

April 24: A contingent of Queen's Scouts and holders of Scout Gallantry Awards attending the National Scouts' Service in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, marched past Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother in the Quadrangle of the Castle this afternoon.

Lady Elizabeth Bassett and Captain the Hon. Jeremy Stopford were in attendance.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr. R. J. Bamber and Miss B. L. Ward

The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs J. E. Bamber, of Chorley, Lancashire, and Belinda, daughter of his Honour Judge Martyn Ward, of Colchester, Essex, and Mrs John Lloyd, of Barbican, London, EC1.

Mr. P. D. Chippindale and Miss S. J. Crawford

The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr Keith Chippindale, of Nether Poppleton, York, and Dr Ruth Chippindale, of Harton, Cambridge, and Sarah Jane, only daughter of Mrs M. B. Crawford and the late Dr G. E. Crawford, of Liverpool.

Mr. J. E. Flynn and Miss C. C. Gibson

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr R. J. Flynn, of Leicester, and Mrs M. R. Flynn, of Thurston, Leicestershire, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs I. G. Gibson, of Stratton, Dorchester, Dorset.

Captain C. Larsen-Burnett and Miss E. C. A. Dods

The engagement is announced between Carl, Larsen-Burnett, son of Mr and Mrs Harry Burnett, of Millinorpe Lane, Winchester, Hampshire, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Dods, of Tandridge, to Amagh, Northern Ireland.

Mr. D. Lyle and Miss L. Ransome

The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Lyle, and Lynne, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Ransome.

Mr. J. D. C. Peete and Miss L. M. Newton

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mrs Vivian Peete and the late Richardson Peete, of Oadings, Gloucester, and Lynne, daughter of Dr and Mrs Walter Newton, of Albany, Georgia, USA.

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KENSINGTON PALACE

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, President, The Ladies' Guild of the St John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem, was present this evening at a Centenary Concert in the Barbican Centre, presented by the Order of St John Musical Society in aid of the Hospital.

Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

April 23: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at the Service of Thanksgiving held this morning in Westminster Abbey to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of St George's Hospital.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Light Infantry, will be present at a concert given by the Massed Bands and Bugles of The Light Infantry and The Royal Green Jackets, in aid of St Mary's Hospital (Paddington) Medical School Appeal and regional charities, at the Albert Hall, on June 30.

A memorial service for the Earl of Ancaster will be held at St Margaret's Westminster, on April 26 at noon.

A memorial service for Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Gairdner, late Colonel of the 10th Royal Hussars, is to be held at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, at 2.30 pm on Friday, April 29, 1983.

Mr. S. Petty and Miss M. L. Jackson

The engagement is announced between Stephen, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Edward J. Petty and Mary Louise, daughter of the late Daniel Jackson and of Mrs Elsie Jackson.

Mr. C. J. Rowlinson and Miss A. J. Booth

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs N. Rowlinson, of Worleston, Cheshire, and Jane, only daughter of his Honour Judge A. S. Booth, QC, and Mrs Booth, of Wirral, Cheshire.

Mr. P. Spencer and Miss C. Moore

The engagement is announced between Peter Spencer, of Guildford, and Caroline Moore, of Guildford.

Mr. J. M. Stoll and Miss S. H. Fringle

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Lionel J. Stoll, of Hampstead, London, NW3, and Sara, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs A. W. Fringle, of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.

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Westernizing the Imam

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office has had great difficulty in deciding exactly who is and who is not an Imam. When a local Muslim community seeks someone to lead its worship in its mosque, more likely than not a converted house or shop, it may prefer to look abroad, to Pakistan, say. But it does not follow that the man they choose will be admitted to Britain.

Turning, no doubt, to the nearest relevant example, the Christian clergyman, immigration officers have assumed that Muslim religious leadership was a profession, and checked for academic qualifications as evidence. There is nothing in Islamic custom that requires an Imam to have such qualifications.

The Home Office can perhaps be credited with raising the education standard of Muslim religious leaders in Britain, by excluding those whose standard was low.

It is an illustration of the impact of Western ways of thought on non-Western ways of life, one of a number of similar factors tending towards the professionalization of Islam in Britain. As a result a non-clerical religion begins to acquire a clergy.

It is such tendencies and pressures as these that have prompted the attempt, marked by a conference in Wembley which ended yesterday, to set up a national organization of Imams and mosque administrators.

It is, perhaps, a "Western" response, and will be all the more Western as the new European Council of Mosques begins to spawn its inevitable substructure of committees and subcommittees.

If the attempt succeeds, which is not yet beyond doubt, the professionalization of the role of Imam will be further enhanced by the institution of training schemes, including eventually a college for Imams.

Mr Syed Syedain, secretary of the organizing committee which has launched the European Council of Mosques, welcomes the idea of professionalism, including such inevitable details as a clearing house for transferring Imams from one post to another, recruitment of candidates, qualifications endorsed by British universities, and pension fund arrangements.

It is hoped that with a recognized British source for authenticating the status of Imam, difficulties with Home Office immigration rules will disappear.

The British Muslim community has been moving only very gradually towards national coherence and a sense of identity, and various initiatives to speed that up have run into all sorts of difficulties.

The British Muslim world has tended to mirror many of the divisions in the wider Muslim World, but with complications of its own. Indian, Bengali and Pakistani Muslims, who make up a majority and are

now a permanent ingredient in the British population, have not been very responsive to Arab attempts to offer them leadership.

The Arab communities in Britain, on the whole better educated but more transient than those from the subcontinent, are divided by what divides them in the Middle East.

There is a Libyan connexion to the new European Council of Mosques, in that the sponsorship of the first conference came from a body based in Tripoli, but support for the idea is in fact more broadly based than that. Jealousy and rivalry, however, are one of the guarantees that the new organization will have to run.

Lacking a strong sense of unity, this largest of all non-Christian minorities in Britain has had difficulty in knowing precisely what it wanted to do, in response to enormous difficulties - most of all, how to preserve a recognizably Muslim culture with their children exposed to Western education, pop music, television, and general Western moral standards.

Some have dreamt of a kind of Muslim minaret, an oasis within secular Britain where Islamic laws and customs will prevail; others talk of seeking identity as a religious denomination like one of the Christian churches, an influence rather than a way of life.

In pursuit of the former,

bodies such as the Union of Muslim Organizations have tried to campaign for recognition in British law of a special status for Muslims, so that issues of divorce and inheritance would be controlled by Islamic institutions under Islamic law.

Atkin to that is the demand for an entirely separate system of Muslim education.

But Parliament is never likely to pass laws removing a section of citizens from the jurisdiction of the British legal system; and those behind the new council of mosques seem to recognize that. They also recognize that most Muslim children will be educated in state schools, and the most they can hope for is a say in the type of religious education their children receive. Building up the professional status of the local Imam would help to open school doors to them.

More can be done to adapt Muslim structures so that they make the best of the opportunities that exist. The British legal system is not entirely incompatible with Islamic law, nor is the education system incompatible with the essentials of Islamic education.

Exploring that potential is the necessary next stage in the creation of a genuinely British Muslim culture, but it is hard to see it happening without some national representative body leading the effort. Which body it is, only the Muslims themselves can decide.

King's College School, Wimbledon

Summer Term begins today. Mr Hamish Fraser and Mr Charles Rintoul retire at the end of term. The chapel will be dedicated by the Bishop of Southwark on Ascension Day. The school choir will perform Brahms's Requiem at Holy Trinity, Sloane Square, on May 12. A reception and dinner for old boys who left the school during or before the 1920s will be held on June 3. Commemoration Day is on June 11, the junior school speech day on July 7 and term ends on July 8.

Monmouth School

Summer Term begins today and ends on Friday, July 8. A G Nicholas continues as head of school and the captain of cricket is to be R S Keat. The new science block will be opened on May 12 by Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon. Half-term will start at 12.20 pm on Friday, May 27, and on Wednesday, June 1, when boarders return. Speech day will be on Thursday, July 7, when the principal guest will be the Right Reverend G E Reindorp.

The Oratory School

Summer Term begins today. The school captain is S G W Jones. Captain of cricket is A W H Barnes. Open day will be on June 4, followed by half-term until June 8. Term ends on July 8.

Southover Manor, Lewes

Southover Manor School re-assembles today for the Summer Term. Half term is from May 28 to June 5. Confirmation is on May 27, conducted by the Bishop of Lewes at Southover Parish Church. Old Girls' Day will be at Southover on June 25 beginning at 11.00 am and term will end with Parents' Day on July 9.

Wellingborough School

Trinity Term begins today and ends on Friday, July 8. The new sports hall is to be opened by Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Enders, Old Wellingborough, on Saturday, July 2, which is also Open Day and Old Wellingborough Day.

Birthdays today

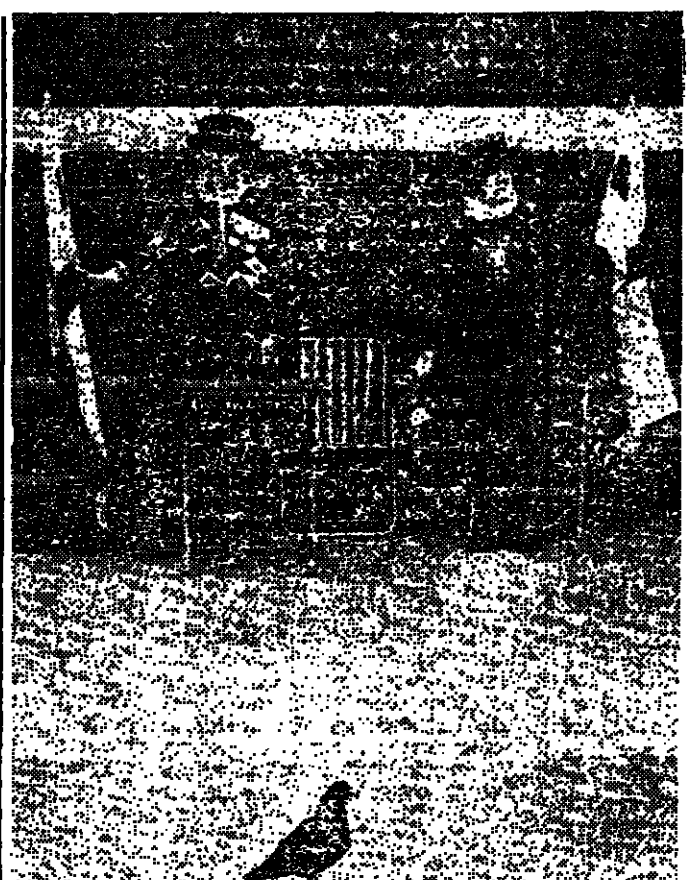
Sir Charles Abrahams, 69; Sir George Baker, 73; Mr J. R. Cator, 64; Mr Anthony Christopher, 58; Sir John Clements, 73; Mr Kenneth Davies, 84; Miss Ella Fitzgerald, 65; Lord Gladwyn, 83; Mr W. F. R. Harris, 81; Lord Hayes, 72; the Earl of Lichfield, Mr David Machin, 49; Lady Marie, 63; Vice-Admiral Sir Frank Mason, 83; the Rev Marcus Morris, 68; Mr "Buster" Mottram, 28; Sir James Plimston, 66; Mr William Roache, 51; Sir Stanley Rous, 88; Mr David Shepherd, 52; Sir Jack Smart, 63; Sir David Stephens, 73.

Royal Society of St George

On St George's Day there was a wreath-laying ceremony by the Royal Society of St George at the Cenotaph, followed by a luncheon. On Sunday, April 24, there was a patriotic service at St George's Church, Hanover Square, which was attended by, among others, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and mayors of London boroughs. Afterwards there was a reception at the headquarters of the Royal Society of St George in Belgium.

Gray's Inn

Professor Randolph Quirk, Vice-Chancellor of London University, has been elected an Honorary Master of the Bench of Gray's Inn.



Pigeon English: Dr Frank Hansford-Miller, chairman of the Save England Crusade, found the English a little thin on the ground for his St George's Day rally in Trafalgar Square yesterday. He is seen showing the flag with his wife (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Parliament this week

Commons Today (2.30): Progress in Committee on the Finance Bill, Education (Finance and Awards) Bill, second reading. Tomorrow (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Wednesday (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Thursday (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Friday (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Saturday (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Sunday (2.30): Debate on Copyright (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Progress of legislation

Commons, April 18: Copyrights Bill read a first time. April 19: Copyrights Bill read a second time. April 20: Copyrights Bill read a third time. April 21: Copyrights Bill read a fourth time. April 22: Copyrights Bill read a fifth time. April 23: Copyrights Bill read a sixth time. April 24: Copyrights Bill read a seventh time. April 25: Copyrights Bill read an eighth time. April 26: Copyrights Bill read a ninth time. April 27: Copyrights Bill read a tenth time. April 28: Copyrights Bill read an eleventh time. April 29: Copyrights Bill read a twelfth time. April 30: Copyrights Bill read a thirteenth time. May 1: Copyrights Bill read a fourteenth time. May 2: Copyrights Bill read a fifteenth time. May 3: Copyrights Bill read a sixteenth time. May 4: Copyrights Bill read a seventeenth time. May 5: Copyrights Bill read an eighteenth time. May 6: Copyrights Bill read a nineteenth time. May 7: Copyrights Bill read a twentieth time. May 8: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-first time. May 9: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-second time. May 10: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-third time. May 11: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-fourth time. May 12: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-fifth time. May 13: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-sixth time. May 14: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-seventh time. May 15: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-eighth time. May 16: Copyrights Bill read a twenty-ninth time. May 17: Copyrights Bill read a thirtieth time. May 18: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-first time. May 19: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-second time. May 20: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-third time. May 21: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-fourth time. May 22: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-fifth time. May 23: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-sixth time. May 24: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-seventh time. May 25: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-eighth time. May 26: Copyrights Bill read a thirty-ninth time. May 27: Copyrights Bill read a fortieth time. May 28: Copyrights Bill read a forty-first time. May 29: Copyrights Bill read a forty-second time. May 30: Copyrights Bill read a forty-third time. May 31: Copyrights Bill read a forty-fourth time. June 1: Copyrights Bill read a forty-fifth time. June 2: Copyrights Bill read a forty-sixth time. June 3: Copyrights Bill read a forty-seventh time. June 4: Copyrights Bill read a forty-eighth time. June 5: Copyrights Bill read a forty-ninth time. June 6: Copyrights Bill read a fiftieth time. June 7: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-first time. June 8: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-second time. June 9: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-third time. June 10: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-fourth time. June 11: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-fifth time. June 12: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-sixth time. June 13: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-seventh time. June 14: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-eighth time. June 15: Copyrights Bill read a fifty-ninth time. June 16: Copyrights Bill read a sixtieth time. June 17: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-first time. June 18: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-second time. June 19: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-third time. June 20: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-fourth time. June 21: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-fifth time. June 22: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-sixth time. June 23: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-seventh time. June 24: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-eighth time. June 25: Copyrights Bill read a sixty-ninth time. June 26: Copyrights Bill read a seventieth time. June 27: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-first time. June 28: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-second time. June 29: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-third time. June 30: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-fourth time. July 1: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-fifth time. July 2: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-sixth time. July 3: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-seventh time. July 4: Copyrights Bill read a seventy-eighth time.

THE ARTS

Donald Pleasence, long the odd man out among our leading actors, tomorrow appears as Dr Johnson in BBC1's controversial *The Falklands Factor*. Interview by Bryan Appleyard

The personification of uncommonness

Donald Pleasence gazed into the pale spring light of Albermarle Street, a hint of madness in his eyes. Suddenly the bald head swivelled clematolike in response to the reverberation of a waiter in a far corner of the room. The poor minion scuttled away.

Most of this did not happen. It should have done but it did not. Pleasence in the flesh is not at all sinister, displays very few signs of madness and only swivels at the request of the photographer. Indeed he is evidently a little impatient with the very word "sinister". "I'm a kind of lovable figure really. I'm loved by middle-aged women. They're my fans. When men stop me in the street for my autograph it's always for their wives, who must be about 50."

But, whether he likes it or not, the latter half of Pleasence's career has been marked by sinister roles, odd characters and, failing that, people under pressure to the point of madness. Nothing could have more completely made the point than the television ads for Pills - "the odd lager".

It was not ever thus. In the late Fifties he was everybody's idea of the common man, a role he played month after month in the live television dramas of the time. Happily he recalls those interminable travelling salesmen and the days when directors used to cry "Let's get Pleasence for the ordinary bloke!"

But even as he hankers after the commonplace he exposes his an-

archic streak. "Actors have much more control in live television. Millions of people watching and you can do anything. I used to have this fantasy that I would go home in the middle of a play and turn on my set to watch my next entrance. I knew that nobody was going to come on." He unleashes his wheezy chuckle, his most characteristic sound apart from the sudden, unnerving swoop into a whisper which punctuates his conversation.

But, after the dramas, came the television series *Armchair Mystery Theatre* of which he was host and occasional star. The public attached the name to the face and the face to an air of mystery, to a sense that something rather strange was going on. But it could not simply have been the effect of casting. At the age of 18 Pleasence left his first job as a booking clerk at Swinton Station in Yorkshire - "my parents' had influence". He told the station master he was off to become an actor. Finding this very odd the railway company sent in a high-powered auditor to discover if he had been selling bogus first-class tickets and was attempting to abscond with the proceeds. The label "odd" was stuck on early.

Labelled or not, he is now an eminently bankable property. Stage parts appear to be available whenever he wants them; and he travels continually to play in a steady flow of



Pleasence: "I'm a kind of lovable figure really. I'm loved by middle-aged women. They're my fans..."

films. Now he is in Mexico working on *Frankenstein's Great Aunt Tilly*. "I only make odd films, that's the point. If they made interesting films then I would appear in interesting films. But the fact is that only horror movies are made at the moment. This at least is a funny horror film and I'm quite looking forward to it." With a little prompting he drifts into a happy reminiscence about *Cul-de-sac*, the Roman Polanski film in which he portrays a nice guy driven mad by his wife and friends.

"I was watching a couple of films I'd rented from the video shop round the corner, and I thought films have got so complicated. They're all shot like commercials - your nose, your glasses and so on. And I thought how wonderful to see a film like *Cul-de-sac*. The essence of that film is what

you read into it, not what the director puts into it by way of fancy cutting. It was a straightforward film in the sense that it could have happened - like *Waiting for Godot*. The weirdest scenes are those which bear a resemblance to the truth."

The Falklands Factor - Don Shaw's play to be shown on BBC 1 tomorrow - bears a very close resemblance to one truth and a slightly more distant similarity to another. The first is the invasion of the Falklands by the Spanish in 1770 and the second is the invasion by the Argentines in 1982. The BBC is running it as a *Play for Today*, the first historical drama to appear in the slot. Pleasence plays Dr Samuel Johnson, who was persuaded by the Prime Minister, Lord North, to write a pamphlet against war with Spain.

Johnson at the time was struggling with poverty and the fear of madness, not to mention a vigorous hatred of the pro-war writer Junius, the scribe Who Supported Our Boys.

"I think it's very important to remember that when Johnson was doing the pamphlet on the Falklands he thought himself to be on the verge of insanity. It was a genuine fear so far as I can tell from the books I've read... but how do you know about history? He didn't have any money, never had any money, just worried all the time about what was his place in the world and whether he'd made a terrible mistake."

Pleasence's thoughts on the great Doctor have produced a performance which is startlingly at odds with the

coffee-table book image of the portly mandarin of Eng. Lit. There are still the perfectly turned sentences but they are delivered as from the depths of a vastly depressed soul. The Pleasence whisper is used to elaborate the effect of a man drifting back and forth from the here and now. Small wonder that he gets so few common man parts when he does the uncommon ones so uncommonly well.

But it all leaves him with a slightly maverick image, as if all this oddness somehow puts him outside the scope of the term "distinguished actor". And "maverick" is certainly a term he warms to a good deal more than "sinister".

"Yes, I think so. I don't like establishment people who know what they're doing or... I must be precise about this... I think everything changes from day to day and I can't see myself as a precise figure, as somebody who always knows what is right and what is wrong... I don't. I don't know what is going to happen tomorrow... (whispers) 'The world is full of people who know exactly what's going to happen tomorrow, which seems to me to be a pity...'"

He drifts off into thought but turns abruptly back into the alert professional when the photographer asks him to pose. Obediently he turns up his collar and gazes out into the pale spring light of Albermarle Street, a hint of madness in his eyes...

Television
Ill-starred scenario

James Galway's *Music in Time* is the title of a good popular introduction to music published jointly by Mitchell Beazley and Channel 4. On the cover, in smaller type, it says "written by William Mann". In coffee-table television spin-offs the real author counts for less than the star who lends his glittering name.

Music in Time the series (Channel 4) is a big international co-production for which Mann acts as "music consultant". Someone else contributes a "scenario", and Galway pops out like a jack-in-the-box to add what the handout calls his "infectious enthusiasm" to the proceedings. Yesterday, while the cameras ranged over choristers, candles, carvings, crucifixes and more choristers (the scenario?), Galway piped up with little remarks designed to prove that medieval music is not really frightening at all. One wished he would either pipe down, or else get his own pipe out and play it. The musical juxtapositions were indeed interesting but what this eye-glazing programme desperately needed was some of that genuinely infectious enthusiasm which Mann brings to the book. But that, alas, would not have been permitted by the scenario.

I have not yet caught up with Jane Glover's *Orchestra*, which BBC1 are running at roughly the same time, but I have not missed a minute of BBC2's riveting series *After Beethoven*. The pedal markings Beethoven wrote are not there for nothing. Whoever ignores them is committing a crime," said the guru apropos a noted trouble-spot in the "Tempest" Sonata. "If you feel something you shouldn't interfere by knowing it." The tuneless growl and almost spastic facial expressions with which he accompanies his own playing somehow reinforce the impression that he is right in there among the mysteries.

In *Wise Man and the Wheel* (Channel 4) James Bellini delivered a new blow to the portly person of Richard Attenborough by suggesting that his emaciated hero was not so much a revolutionary as a misguided Victorian eccentric. The programme, which dwelt at length among the dispossessed poor, based its simple but devastating case on the fact that Gandhi's most enduring legacy has been a cruelly efficient system of capitalist exploitation.

The textile workers of Bombay have been on strike for over a year, and have even been joined by the police in demonstrating for higher wages. Violence, said Bellini with pugnacious glee, was now a real possibility. Underedited and overlong, this programme was none the less a timely reply to all those Oscars.

When even *Radio Times* pokes fun at the Eurovision Song Contest (BBC1) it behoves the rest of us to fall silent. "Vivrez!" sang the French contestant, heaving over his keyboard. "Vivrez! Encore un réveil!" "Do re me fa so la si do!" sang the Norwegians, determined not to rest on the laurels they had won two years previously by scoring zero points. The surprise was that the winner, a torch singer from Luxembourg, really could sing. Terry Wogan officiated with his customary blend of derision and reverence.

The opening edition of *The Late Clive James* (Channel 4) was, as Dennis Hackett observed last week, dull beyond belief. Nice to see that the rotund maestro has now pulled his finger out. Saturday's show was well up to standard.

Michael Church

Dance

Oasis of sensitivity

Contemporary
BalletsParis Opéra/
Théâtre de la Ville

The big hit with most of the public in the *Soirée de Ballets Contemporains* at the Paris Opéra was Alain Ayllé's *Bord du précipice* about the destruction of a pop-star musician through adulation, sex and drugs. Across town at the Théâtre de la Ville, Karole Armitage has been astonishing audiences of the Opéra Ballet's Experimental Group (GRGOP) not only by the violent energy of her dancing but by the rock-concert volume of her music.

But first, something completely different and no less original. The other creation in the programme at the Opéra itself was a work lasting half an hour for only two dancers and a pianist. The music is eight of the 12 Etudes for piano by Debussy, excellently played by Georges Pludermacher. The choreographer is Andrew de Groat, who first won attention with his work for Robert Wilson's "operas" but lately has made ballets as a freelance and for his own group.

The dancers were Wilfride Piolet and Jean Guizix, husband and wife stars of the Opéra, who have long been interested in using their prodigious classical technique for contemporary ends. De Groat says he has tried to make the work an equal collaboration of dancers, choreography and music: there are set and free passages, and the relation of dance to music is different in each Etude.

Nouvelle Lune starts with solos, gradually building a relationship between the two dancers that makes the most of their remarkable rapport, so that communication sometimes occurs right across the huge stage, and they even seem mutually aware without needing to be able to see the other. A décor (by de Groat) of deliberately artificial-looking plastic clouds is brought into the action, descending and rising again; two doves also take part as one moment.

The action is an extraordinary mixture of natural movement and ballet technique, building on Piolet's strong feet and Guizix's powerful jump, also the remarkable control that enables both to accomplish the most delicate gradations of effect, as subtle and varied as the music. Physically, to sustain such movement so long and accurately is a tour de force, but equally impressive is the emotional quality they convey.

This work was an oasis of quiet, sensitive and absolutely gripping artistry between Glen Tetley's highly rhetorical *Voluntaries*, which began the bill, and Ayllé's new work that ended it. Perhaps it is not surprising that some people left the theatre at the intermission while others were only just arriving (it was there the day after the premiere, and word-of-mouth spreads quickly).

Au Bord du précipice is a wild extravaganza that never lets up for a moment. The character called simply *He* has an opening solo in a white suit (the jacket worn open to reveal a bare chest), then changed to black leather. His wife, his desire and drugs are all represented by *She* in a series of increasingly revealing nights, sometimes

worn with a huge cloak or strands of scarlet ribbon trailing behind. After the opening, *He* is scarcely ever alone; fans, pushers and a host of other attendants flock the stage. The music, a mixture of modern styles in a recording ("As falls Wichita, so falls Wichita Falls") by Pat Metheny and Lyle Mays, is restless, with an edgy pulse, but there is something *déjà vu* about the whole piece, its evocation of the Sordid Sixties rather empty and obvious. The energy and glamour of the dancers explains the popular enthusiasm, especially for Patrick Dupond, infinitely knowing and blatant as *He* (Charles Jude, in another cast, lacks confidence in his own hip-wriggling), and Eric Vu-An as the rising star who eclipses him in the hectic finale - definitely a name to watch.

Karole Armitage puts her high-voltage energy to a far more contemporary purpose both in *Massacre on MacDougal Street*, which she staged for a French cast, and in *The Last Good Dance*, for herself and Michael Clark as guests on one of the GRGOP programmes. Compared with her pieces, the contributions by the group's own choreographers (Jacques Garnier, Maguy Marin, Olympe Douve and Carolyn Carlson in the two shows I saw) are insipid, often starting with a good concept, but not backing it with enough movement invention to hold the interest.

The title *Massacre on MacDougal Street* hints at a respect for Balanchine - Armitage used to dance his ballets in Geneva before coming via Merce Cunningham to her present independent style. Her other piece at the Théâtre de la Ville even used elements of rather formal *pas de deux* partnering at times, although always with a new angle, and there is nothing formal about the relationship between her and Clark, which is displayed as fiercely aggressive.

Dressed by Charles Atlas in outrageous mixtures of colour, shape and pattern, with frequent changes of clothes, footwear and even wigs, Armitage and her dancers in both works convey the sort of self-contained disregard and assurance one sees in many of today's young people. The contained quality of it is important in the result: what everyone notices in Armitage's choreography is its forcefulness, but that makes its effect partly by contrast with a cool, wary stillness, especially in her own performances.

Massacre is danced to recorded music of Rhys Chatham, with whom she worked in her *Drastic Classicism*. For *The Last Good Dance* Armitage has the composer David Linton on stage, playing a gleaming collection of percussion in duet with pre-recorded tapes. Although the idiom is entirely different, the relationship of musician and two dancers is as intense as in *Nouvelle Lune* at the Opéra.

Perhaps somebody should try putting the two works in tandem on one programme. Although outwardly contrasted, they have a lot in common, chiefly the serious use of a scrupulously polished technique to accomplish something new that disengages rather than alone, like patriotism, is not enough; amid a rush of novelties, Armitage and de Groat offer something more.

John Percival

Antony and
Cleopatra

Young Vic

The school parties packing into the Young Vic to see their set book are greeted by a Voytek set of baroque splendour that seems rather to herald a performance of *All for Love*. I hope they will not be put off. Keith Hack's production is as successful a demonstration as I have seen of blending and inventing styles and periods.

A headless heroic statue (just a apt for this hero as for *Lorenzo*) dominates a flight of steps down which a cascade of crushed and gathered cloth-of-gold spreads from its torso to cover the forestage. Antony's classical breastplate and tan leather trousers (pompously planted with a *lily* up front) sit comfortably beside the imitation of Veronese in Caesar's and

Enobarbus's military costumes and a featherweight lavender tulle confection for Cleopatra which she could have worn to a first night at Covent Garden.

So much for Pippa Bradshaw's costumes. I am less happy about the actors inside them; the distinguished names here are not at their best, and there is some mighty dim work low down in the order.

Again and again, the impact of a scene or the reading of a line seems to owe most to the director's intelligence, and loses spontaneity. So many qualities in this extraordinary play have to be brought out and balanced, the sheer stature of the characters, the intimacy and immediacy that expresses itself in some of the most emotionally piercing lines in Shakespeare, the rhetoric alternating with dialogue that constantly flickers with the subtlest bawdy overtones.

RPO/Mennhin
Festival Hall

The "Sold Out" sign was up on Friday night when the RPO's President and Associate Conductor (not to be confused with any of the five other conductors who at present hold titles with this orchestra) made a rare appearance: the name of Yehudi Menuhin draws the crowds whether he is doing what he does best or whether he is conducting. I am not such a spoilsport as to suggest that any concert which involves his musicianship could be less than an exalted experience, and in fact his account of Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony was a warm-hearted, enjoyable one.

The RPO's leader did much of the work, translating Menuhin's affectionate gestures into directions which the orchestra could follow. If the conductor never quite seemed

sure whether he was beating in two or four or just encouraging with a generally circular motion, he at least set apt speeds and only a couple of times pulled them about too much; he provided a humane, gentle approach to the work within which the orchestra's competent playing could function.

It follows that this was an entirely unexploratory reading: I still live in hope of a first movement which bounces off the strings and a storm sequence in which cellos and basses can be heard.

The first half included Mozart's Concerto for flute and harp, with Jean-Pierre Rampal and Marisa Robles - the former effervescent, but giving little attention to niceties of intonation (his misdeed entry was wildly off-pitch), the latter nervous but determined in her constant figuration. In each movement the soloists paused to include a little confection of

Theatre

There is much more light and shade in this language than most of the east seem to be aware. The sense of hisronic danger, risking a really big effect (I know schools audiences do not help, sniggering as they do at the sight of a snake), is missing too; and it matters in this play more than most.

Since I last saw him, Keith Baxter (Antony) has become smartly crop-headed and has acquired a fine throaty sonority, invaluable for this old warrior, as well as a beard like the Ghost's in *Hamlet*. "A sable silvered". He gets away with some splendidly bitch business, swinging his tall Queen of Egypt (Judy Parfitt) into the air for "Here is my space... the nobleness of life is to do thus", and departing from Sextus Pompeius's drinking session hoisting Octavius (Brian Deacon) in one hand and his host in the other. That is fair, at least,

on Jeffery Kisson's Pompeius, who approaches a parody of old-school Old Vic acting.

He is also horribly moving in Antony's first despair: "The land bids me tread no more upon 't, it is ashamed to bear me." But the topmost peaks elude him, as they do (just) with Barry Stanton's Enobarbus, however well his tough desecrated manner tells in the more terse, natural exchanges.

Noble profile notwithstanding, Miss Parfitt's grace is firmly European and, so far from reaching for the olive make-up, she takes to a loose gown and sandals more naturally than Glenda Jackson, in unhappier circumstances, ever could. Some lovers of the play may miss the dusky Eastern promise and think it necessary: that depends on taste.

Anthony Masters



Keith Baxter's old warrior, with Jeffery Kisson

Concerts

their own (the cadenzas certainly had nothing to do with Mozart): Miss Robles's cadential whooshes drew delighted gasps from the appreciative house, and even Mr Menuhin seemed quite surprised as he headed for the downbeat.

Nicholas Kenyon

Songmakers'
Almanac

Wigmore Hall

I saw only one red rose on Saturday for Shakespeare and St George: "Let us garlands bring" was the generous response from the Songmakers' Almanac in one of their most enriching entertainments.

The obvious, in the form of a superfluity of sounds and sweet, was avoided, as was, generally speaking, the coy and

the didactic. Instead we had six artfully planned acts, with Prologue (Dankworth's "Complaint Works") and Epilogue (fairy evocative from Tippet and Wolf). In between came German, Denmark, Scotland, Russia and England, with "A Garland of Fancies" in the middle to enable us to hear Poulenc's and Britten's exquisite settings of "Tell me where is fancy bred". Sarah Walker sang them with fitting tenderness and whimsy.

Compliments were variously paid: from Frank Harris ("If Shakespeare had asked I would have had to submit") to Heine, who felt Shakespeare's only fault lay in being an Englishman. To try to prove the point we had Schubert's "Horch! horch! die Lerch" from Sheila Armstrong, and the *Antony and Cleopatra* "Triunkled" from Peter Savidge.

The biggest compliment perhaps was Graham Johnson's compilation of the Strauss and

Brahms Ophelia songs. Sheila Armstrong, starting with Brahms's unaccompanied "How should I your true love know", gave a finely judged portrayal of Ophelia's developing destruction, using tellingly even the weaker parts of her voice. Bertio's "Death of Ophelia" followed from Sarah Walker, with Peter Savidge providing a postscript from Shostakovich in his dark, declamatory setting of Marina Tsvetayeva's "Hamlet's Dialogue with his own Conscience".

It was good to be reminded too, in his setting of Sonnet 66, of the historical ubiquity of "Art" made tongue-tied by authority before turning to England and among others better known, Sarah Walker's perceptive performance of Rubbra's "Take, O take those lips away".

Hilary Finch

Rock

An honesty which
pierces romanceJoni Mitchell
Wembley Arena

Joni sings most affectingly to her friends: Betsy, Sharon, Carol. Her observations have the musing, informal tone of letters and conversation, studied with the surprising details which have always lent her songs their special, precise resonance, such as the recent reflection on her friends' children: "We look like our mothers did now/When we were those kids' age".

She has an electric guitar now (a fat-bodied single-cutaway jazz model, to which she has adapted her folk finger style with typical originality) and a Halliwell-slick four-piece backing band. Still, though, the prevailing thrust is of an honesty which consistently pierces and brings down romance on the wing: she wants to be a wild thing, running fast and free, but she is increasingly willing to admit without self-pity to the banal frailties which to some extent hobble every life, be it ever so grand.

Saturday evening concert followed the path of her most recent album by revelling in the

injection of rock 'n' roll beneath the complicated surfaces of her song structures: her guitarist, Miquel Landau, provided raging post-Hendrix power chords and solos in "You Dream Flat Tires" and "Wild Things Run Fast". Russell Ferrante (keyboards), Larry Klein (bass guitar) and Vince Colaiuta (drums) sewed up a variety of glistening backdrops, taking their cue from her trademark swaying strum and allowing her voice to range freely through its wonderful variety of timbre.

Towards the interval, she shuffled the deck: "God Must Be a Boogie Man" from the unsuccessful *Mingus* album, swung on finger-snapping bass and wire brushes on the snare drum; the early "He Played Real Good for Free", still a moving song, was accompanied only by her own piano; "Big Yellow Taxi", in which she rather endearingly muddled up the words, was done folk-club style, alone with her guitar; and she sat at the dulcimer for "A Case of You".

The big set pieces, one in each half, were taken from the undergarbed *Hejira*: first "Song to Sharon", in which her sustained intensity took the whole concert up a gear or two;



later "Refuge of the Roads", interpolates snatches of autobiography in the picturesque and metaphysical modes. Her recasting of Leiber and Stoller's "You're So Square" Baby I Don't Care" lightened the mood; the marvellous "Chinese Cafe", which, so brilliantly

interpolates snatches of "Unchained Melody", brought us back to hushed introspection with the kind of emotional combination-punch she devises better than anyone.

Richard Williams

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings End, May 6. \$ Contango Day, May 9. Settlement Day, May 16.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]

THE WEEK AHEAD

ICI expected to make £100m for quarter

How good is good? That is the question, exchanging ICI's first quarter figures, due on Thursday after the bullish remarks by Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman, at last Thursday's annual meeting.

Since they are going to be a "distinct improvement" on any quarter of last year they must be well ahead of the £83m pretax which the group produced in the second quarter of last year, and therefore a vast improvement on £62m made in the first quarter of 1982.

In spite of the chairman's warning "not to go overboard" the market is going for £100m-plus for the quarter, and about £500m for the full year, against the depressed 1982 figure of £259m.

More important than the figures themselves will be the market's reaction to them. With the shares up by 15 per cent in a week and a half there is plenty of scope for profit-taking, even after Friday's 10p end-of-the-account drop.

The general impression, however, is that there will be plenty of buyers willing to take the stock in: ICI is still the market bellwether and institutional holders will be expecting other companies, slower to produce their figures, to reflect a similar improvement, and

therefore to underpin the general level of share prices.

There is less optimism about the final results from S Pearson & Son due tomorrow. The shares have been buoyant recently, much impressed by the Oscar-winning success of *Ghandi* (the Pearson Longman subsidiary owns Goldcrest films).

But it may be that the 1982 results will fall short of the forecast made a year ago when Pearson bought out the minority shareholding in Pearson Longman. At that stage the group was looking for an improvement on the £59.5m it made in 1981, but the market is prepared for a slight shortfall.

The *Financial Times* per-

formed particularly well in the first half of the present year, but it is sometime since the paper increased its cover price, and costs have been rising, particularly in newsprint, where exchange movements have worked against British publishers.

There are also fears that Longman, the publishing sub-

The biggest imponderable in S Pearson's figures is Doulton's contribution. In the second half of 1981, Doulton added £7.6m to group pretax profit,

127.3m	Ranlemere Eats	438
18.4m	Rent M1	43
12.5m	Lains	216
1,122.8m	Lains Properties	216
33.2m	Ldn & Prov Sh	326
41.4m	Ldn Shop	131
22.3m	Lenton Hlgs.	225
483.5m	MEPC	727
16.0m	McKay Secs	113
6,385.0m	Marble Hill	243
9,967.0m	Marlborough	45
3,715.800	Marrier Estates	85
80.5m	Mountleigh	161
4,356.0m	Municipal	800
15.6m	North British	113
44.3m	Peaschey Prop	183
44.4m	Prop & Dev	182
61.9m	Prop Hlgs	182
56.1m	Prop Secs	126

-2	10.2	2.3	28.9
-2	1.8	4.1	4.5
-2	7.1	3.3	22.2
+4	12.4	3.8	28.8
-2	3.4	1.1	77.8
+2	8.2	6.3	17.9
-2	5.4	2.4	28.1
-2	10.4	4.6	22.3
-2	4.3	4.0	22.8
-2	18.5	1.8	37.5
-2	0.6	2.6	37.5
-2	2.9	3.6	9.1
-2	7.9	4.9	10.7
-2	13.0	1.4	30.7
-2	4.4	3.2	50.4
-2	7.5	4.9	15.6
-2	4.7	3.2	38.4
-2	5.5	3.8	28.2
-2	8.2	2.8	31.6

ECONOMIC VIEW

Little hope for base rate cut

Last week's unexpectedly high public borrowing outcome for 1982-83 has added force to the authorities' concern over what is happening to the money supply. Despite the drop in inflation to a 15-year low, domestic factors do not favour a further reduction in interest rates. Events across the Atlantic offer little hope either, with anxiety about Treasury funding needs keeping interest rates

The most interesting sets of figures out this week are the CBI's April Industrial Trends Survey, released tomorrow, and the March trade figures published on Friday.

CBI leaders have already hinted that the April survey will show further improvements in business prospects and confidence.

The trade figures in the first

scrutinized for signs of a continuing import surge as the British economy picks up.

City forecasts of the current account in March range from a small deficit to a surplus of up to £400m.

Other economic indicators published this week include fourth quarter institutional investment and new vehicle registrations (today); first quarter bricks and cement man-

Another group whose shares are close to their year's high is Blue Circle, Britain's biggest cement manufacturer which has been on the expansion trail with an agreed £26m bid for Aberthaw Cement and a move into the American market with the purchase of four cement plants in partnership with

32.2m	Barfield Hedges	77
17.4m	Casterford	580
36.2m	Coxs Field	25
258.0m	Porrnanakande	93
227.2m	Righties & Low	55
5,559.0m	Houghton	650
15.5m	Majdele	82

TEA

12.4m	Camellia Inv	530
11.9m	McLeod Russell	267
5,143.0m	Do 8.4% Cw Pfill:	285
1.12m	Moran	140
1.12m	Sumrah Valley	140

MISCELLANEOUS

1,242.0m	Essex Wtr 3.5%	274
85.4m	Ct Ntnn Tele	75
1,982.0m	Millford Ducks	75

4.2	5.7	7.4	..
4.9	20.0	3.4	..
..	3.0	1.9	..
..	..	1.3	..
..	6.2	8.8	..
..	38.7	5.5	..
..	4.3	4.9	..
+10	10.0	1.9	..
-3	12.0	10.3	..
-10	1.4	0.5	..
..	5.7	4.1	..
..	506	11.3	..
..	1.5	1.1	39.1
..	0.5

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

1-B				
27.8m	AAH	93		7.4
27.8m	AE Electronics	640	+15	21.1
31.4m	AE PLC	32		1.0
31.4m	AG Research	314		10.0
34.6m	AGC	346	+7	12.5
35.4m	AGP	236		15.0
118.7m	APM Hilda	372		0.5m
12.1m	Arquimedes Bros.	44		4.7
12.1m	Arco A	19		3.0
21.0m	Advance Serv	71		5.0
21.0m	Acron A	44	+10	5.0
10.1m	Acron's & Gen	232		25.0
12.3m	Air Call	516		1.4
12.3m	Air Call	516		25.0
123.5m	Amersham Int	287	-1	5.4
92.4m	Anderson Strath	924		9.7
92.4m	Amelia T. H.	924		2.1
907.9m	Anglo Amer Ind	1,034		1.0
5,593.0m	ARQUESTUM A	5,593		5.4b
19.7m	Aschell Bros	120		2.1
19.7m	Asch & Lacy	478		22.1

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Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 688
FT All Share: 436.04
Bargains: 25,782
Trading Mail USM Index: 182.7Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Average: 8,553.12
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index:
1,006.53
New York: Dow Jones Aver-
age: 1,196.30

(Friday's close).

CURRENCIES

LONDON
Sterling \$1.5455
Index 83.2
DM 3.7875
FF 11.3450
Yen 366.25
Dollar
Index 122.4
DM 2.4475
Gold
\$437.50NEW YORK
Gold \$438
Sterling \$1.5480
(Friday's close).

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rate 10
3 month interbank 10½-10¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9¾
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month FF 13½-13¾ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April
5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per
cent.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interim: S. Lyles. Final: Becton International, A. Caird, Hammon Property Investment and Development Corporation, Hoskins & Horton, I & J Hyman, Mita Corporation (AMD), Peloton Group, Renown Incorporated, Simon Engineering, United Friendly Insurance, Viceroy Resources, Wincata Property Investments.

TOMORROW - Interim: Dutton Group, Energy Capital, New Australia Investments, Safeguard Industrial Investments, Fleet Discount, EIS Group, English National Investment Company, Flight Refuelling, John Menzies, Pedding Senang Rubber, S. Pearson & Son, Rush & Tompkins, H C Simey, Solicitors' Law Stationery Society, Tarmac, Turfitt Corporation.

WEDNESDAY - Interim: British Assets Trust, London Provincial Shop Centres, North British Properties, United Carbide Corporation (1st. grt), Interim: BSG International, Carports International, De Vere Hotels, Lillishall Co, Marlborough Property Holdings, James Neil, Shiloh, Telephone Rentals, Thomson T-Line Care.

THURSDAY - Interim: Audio Fidelity, Hawkins & Tipson, Hoover (grt), ICI (1st grt), Pochin's, Samuel Properties, S. Simpson, Final: Aero Needles Group, Blue Circle Industries, Boosey & Hawkes, Davies & Newman, Downbrae Holdings, Farnell Electronics, Francis Industries, John Lang, Office & Electronic Machines, Slender Holdings, Whistman Reed & Arnold, George Wimpey, Wira & Plastic Products, Yule Catto & Co.

FRIDAY - Final: Henry Boot & Sons, Sir Joseph Causton & Sons, Clayton, Sons & Co (Holdings), I. Cole, Hopkings Holdings, All Liberty Group, Long & Hamby, Pentland Industries, Sunlight Service Group.

Sinclair may go public

Sinclair Research and Acorn Computers could both go public this year on the back of staggering growth in the home computer market, according to stockbrokers. Henderson Crosthwaite. The market has grown from nothing to £90m in two years and the brokers expect home computer sales to grow at 50 per cent compound until 1985 even though the United Kingdom now has more computers per head than any other nation. However, competition and lower costs will trim growth in the value of these sales to around 33 per cent a year.

PROFITS DOUBLE: Persgamon Press, Mr Robert Maxwell's private company which owns 78 per cent of British Printing and Communications Corporation, reported more than doubled profits from £14.4m to £29.5m last year. Excluding BPCC, Persgamon improved from £5.7m to £9.7m helped by a £2.2m turnaround to profits of £1.6m on dealings in government stocks.

OPTIMISTIC VIEW: Lord Aldington, chairman of Sun Alliance and London Insurance Group, says the insurance industry's trading prospects in many of its markets continue to be unsatisfactory. However, in the annual report today, he says there are a few signs that more sensible and responsible views are prevailing in falling rates of inflation and in reinsurance markets.

Sterling 'may rise to \$1.70 this year'

By Our Financial Staff

An early Conservative election victory would give a big boost to sterling and the pound could rise to \$1.70 against the dollar in the second half of this year, according to James Capel, stockbroker.

However, sterling is likely to be subject to bouts of nervousness until the election, the stockbroker says in the latest edition of his *International Bond and Currency Review*.

Its prospects greater stability in the oil market after August and the dollar will be generally weaker later in the year. On this basis, sterling could strengthen to \$1.60 and up to \$1.70 if the Government is elected.

Apart from uncertainties over the election, the months ahead are likely to be nervous. James Capel says the present Opec pricing structure could come under threat up to August because of seasonally weak demand. A \$25 a barrel oil price is possible and this could push sterling down to between \$1.40 and \$1.45.

Thereafter rising inventories and recovery in the world economy should help to underpin the oil market and sterling could rise against a weakening dollar. But its effective exchange rate could still weaken because the traditional hard currencies will benefit more from the dollar's decline, James Capel says.

The brokers are cautious about prospects for British interest rates. They say short-term United States rates are likely to remain stable for a couple of months but a firm pound could still allow another half-point cut in bank base rates to 9.5 per cent before the end of next month.

Capel expects only a slow world recovery by historical standards, with output rising by 3 per cent on average and inflation by about 5 per cent in the main industrialized countries.

Further evidence of recovery in Britain is expected from the Confederation of British Industry, which publishes its April Trends Survey this week. The results are expected to show more companies reporting bigger order books and greater optimism over rising output.

Hammer in \$600,000 salary deal

By Jonathan Davis

Dr Armand Hammer, the American oil magnate and art collector who made his first million more than 50 years ago, has demonstrated yet again that he has no intention of giving up the gentle art of earning money.

Although he is only one month short of his 85th birthday, the good doctor has signed a remarkable employment agreement with his company, Occidental Petroleum, that will guarantee him work and a salary of at least \$600,000 (£390,000) a year until February 1989, when he will be in his 91st year.

After 1989, the agreement will be renewable automatically every year unless either the company or the then nonagenarian Dr Hammer gives six-month notice that it is time to end the working partnership.

Hammer: the gentle art of earning money.

If he retires, Dr Hammer will still be entitled to a salary equivalent to half his previous year's income until he dies. It will be index-linked to changes in the Consumer Price Index, but only - a characteristic touch, but only - if the index goes up, not if it falls.

Dr Hammer has been chairman and chief executive officer of Occidental since 1957, when he bought into the sleepy \$34,000 Californian oil company as a means, so the story goes, of earning some tax write-offs in his retirement by drilling a few dry holes.

This play, as is now well known, proved a spectacular flop, when Occidental discovered oil not only in California, but subsequently also in huge quantities in Libya and the North Sea.

Apart from his other sources of private wealth, Dr Hammer believed to be the only capitalist whose office has signed photographs of both Lenin and Ronald Reagan, reflecting his lifelong devotion to furthering trade with the Soviet Union - owns 1,160,010 shares in Occidental.

At Friday's closing price of \$27½, they are worth about \$29.5m.

Network extension too costly

Midland halts plans for separate personal and company services

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank has called to a halt its ambitious branch network reorganization, aimed at dividing up the market between personal and corporate customers. The high cost of implementing the strategy has forced a rethink, and plans to extend the reorganization nationwide have been put on ice.

The bank's decision marks an important policy change which could have a significant bearing on how the other big banks decide to adapt their costly branch networks to meet future needs.

Midland has been one of the pioneers among the big clearers in moving towards market segmentation and satellite branching in the United King-

dom. It set up a corporate finance division in 1975 to deal with its biggest corporate customers and since 1978 has been establishing area offices which cater for the needs of business and are surrounded by satellite branches devoted to personal customers.

So far 55 area offices have been established. They handle corporate business for 430 service branches, or about a fifth of the bank's branch network.

Although a few more area offices may be set up on a selective basis two more will be opened in London this year - the expense involved has deterred Midland from going ahead further except in the big regional centres where cus-

tomers require a high degree of financial sophistication.

Some smaller businesses have also taken against the system and it has taken time for the area offices to justify their cost in terms of attracting new business. There is no intention of putting the policy into reverse, however, and the existing area offices are counted a success.

The other big banks have all been experimenting with similar changes to their branch structure, although on a much smaller scale. Barclays has set up a large branch in Milton Keynes, with a team of experts handling corporate work in the Luton area for about 70 branches and has several other experimental corporate branch-

es. It is also undertaking a major survey of its branch network before deciding how far to continue down this route.

National Westminster also has a pilot scheme, started in Plymouth in 1980 and now extended to several other big towns such as Bradford and Southend, involving a large branch headed by a chief manager which puts the emphasis on corporate business, leaving surrounding branches free to deal with personal customers. Lloyds is also dipping its toe in the water with a similar experiment after abandoning an earlier satellite banking trial 10 years ago.

The huge costs of running the branch network, and the prob-

lem of meeting the different needs of corporate and personal customers, lie behind the moves.

Societies back joint cash-point

Building societies have voted overwhelmingly in favour of a shared cash-dispenser network for customers in a questionnaire from the Building Societies Association and the system could go ahead this year. However, no decision has been taken on whether the societies should set up their own network or join forces with other financial institutions such as the banks.

City Comment

Unwanted financial bloodletting

It was inevitable at some stage that attempts by the banks to sort out international debt problems with the minimum fuss would make them look a soft touch and lead to charges that responsible western countries are simply bailing out irresponsible developing nations that are their own worst enemies.

Would a little bit of financial blood in the streets not concentrate the minds of governments and financiers alike?

Six American economists with access to the right ears in Washington have now come out into the open on this. In an article in today's *Journal of Economic Affairs*, they argue that such bail-outs merely benefit "both creditors and debtors at the expense of the ordinary citizen".

They say there is no justification for lending more to countries such as Poland and Mexico "without a clear understanding that a debtor nation's policy, if pernicious, will be substantially changed." Otherwise, the banks should bit the bullet.

This is a silly idea. To start with, it is wholly ideological.

More important, proponents of private enterprise, who effectively prevented international agreement on recycling and left it to the banks, cannot now complain if the banks work according to what they see as their interests.

£35m bid for Key Markets

By Our Financial Staff

An important force in super-market retailing may be created this week if Safeway, the American stores chain, seals the purchase of Key Markets, a subsidiary of Fitch Lovell.

Reports at the weekend said that agreement had been reached in principle for Safeway to pay around £35m for the 100 Key Markets stores. This would produce a combined group with more than 200 units and annual sales of more than £800m.

Last year, Safeway produced profits of £17m on sales of £500m. Key Markets stores lost money. Although the combined group would still be small compared to, say, Sainsbury, it could be a significant force if Safeway were to raise Key Markets to its level of profitability.

The proposed sale could meet opposition from Linford, the food chain which has in limbo an £82m bid for the entire Fitch Lovell chain. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been considering the implications of such a deal. The Commission's report is believed to have gone to Lord Cockfield, Secretary of State for Trade, last week and his decision on whether to accept its recommendations will probably come before the end of next month.

Should Linford be allowed to proceed with a bid, then it might well object to the proposed sale, though its scope for effective resistance might be limited.

US stake in Minet leads to review

By Andrew Cornelius

The ruling council of the Lloyd's insurance market is planning to investigate the question of ownership of Lloyd's brokers by insurance companies at a meeting to be held next month.

It follows the disclosure that a US insurance group has acquired a near 25 per cent stake in Minet Holdings, the British insurance broking firm.

Sir Peter Green, the chairman of Lloyd's, wrote to Mr Ray Pettit, chairman of Minet, earlier this week to give a warning that Minet may not be allowed to place business within the Lloyd's market if St Paul Companies, the US group, increases its stake in Minet beyond 25 per cent.

Minet had sought advice on the matter from Lloyd's after St Paul announced that it had increased its holding in Minet from 19.97 per cent to 24.96 per cent.

Sir Peter said in his letter that the question of ownership of Lloyd's brokers has been reviewed on several occasions. He said that the position had not changed since he advised Mr John Wallock, the former chairman of Minet,

Fierce haggling over export credits likely

By Our Banking Correspondent

European governments are to press for a semi-automatic system to help set minimum interest rates on finance for big export contracts. The move will be made at this week's meeting in Paris of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Negotiations start today on changes to the export credit consensus - the gentlemen's agreement between the big industrial countries concerning the level of subsidized interest rates on export credits.

At present, rates range from 10 per cent on export credits for poor, importing countries to 12.4 per cent for rich countries. However, since these rates were set, world interest rates have fallen about 2 per cent, cutting the element of official subsidy.

Fierce haggling is expected among OECD countries on how much consensus rates should be altered to reflect the fall. However, five European countries, including Britain, have become disgruntled with the annual battle over the consensus and are likely to oppose any change unless a semi-automatic system is agreed.

The British Treasury, which spent a record £587m in 1981-2 subsidizing export credits through the Export Credits Guarantee Department would also like subsidies eliminated eventually. However, Britain is likely to push this week for a compromise reduction of 1 per cent for poor and intermediate countries and ½ per cent for rich countries.

Move to simplify accounts



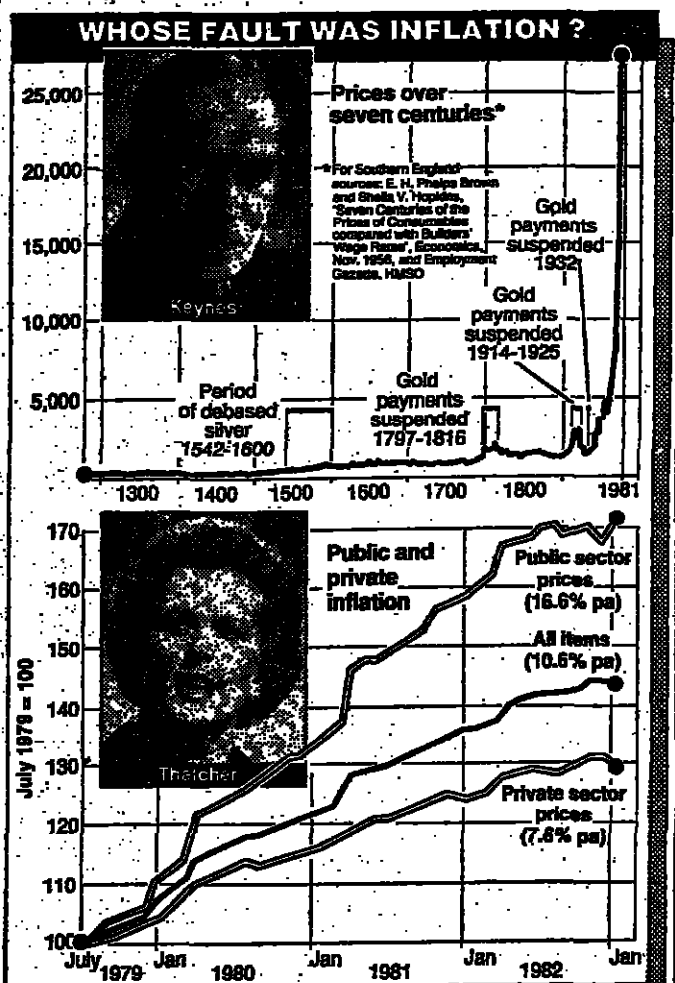
Joel Barnett difficult to read.

The Association of Certified Accountants is launching a high-level research project on central government accounting to consider if the mass of financial information can be presented in a form that more people, including MPs, might understand.

Mr Joel Barnett, former chief secretary to the Treasury and head of the research project steering group, said that "financial information presented by central government now is so obscure that it is difficult to know what is happening".

At the moment, central government spending plans are detailed through the supply estimates and the result reported in the various appropriation accounts.

Mr Barnett, who is now chairman of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, said: "The documents are bulky and very difficult to read, so that parliamentary control of the way public expenditure is planned and monitored is inhibited. As a result, public debate about government expenditure is not as well informed as it ought to be and parliamentary control is weakened".



Price of Keynes

By Graham Seargeant

You can prove all sort of things with statistics, and they are even more convincing as charts. Hence, Mr Peter Smith, a Southampton University lecturer, reproducing a long-run chart in the latest *Journal of Economic Affairs* (top) shows "more stuffingly than could words, the inflationary effects of Keynes' economic thought".

Over seven centuries, prices in Southern England apparently rose by 29,309 per cent. No less than 95.9 per cent of the entire inflation has taken place since 1936, the year in which John Maynard Keynes published the *General Theory*.

That is interesting to know. But such charts always exaggerate the importance of later periods. If the chart had been drawn to end in the 1820s or

1920s, we might have concluded that, respectively, Napoleon or Mr Primrose, the assassin of Sarajevo, were responsible for most of history's inflation.

Alternatively, Mrs Thatcher could be to blame. In an adjoining article, Mr Ronald Halstead, managing director of the Beecham group, attacks Mrs Thatcher for failing to control prices.

He praises the Government for bringing "a breath of competitive fresh air to the private sector". As a result, private sector inflation has fallen much lower than the retail price index might indicate. "As an employer of the public sector, however, the Government has been a failure".

"Physician heal thyself" Mr Halstead concludes.

Slough confident of further profits rise

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Nigel Mobbs, chairman of Slough Estates, says he is property portfolio edged up "confident that we will be £19m to £498m, but this reporting a further advance in includes new additions offset by a deficit of £12m on revaluations".

This reflects "a generally, but hopelessly temporary, weaker demand for industrial and commercial premises, reduced rental growth and an upward movement in investment yields," Mr Mobbs says. It leaves the company's asset value unchanged at 175p per share.

The book value of Slough's of Slough Estates, says he is property portfolio edged up "confident that we will be £19m to £498m, but this reporting a further advance in includes new additions offset by a deficit of £12m on revaluations".

NEDC reaffirms call for public procurement policy

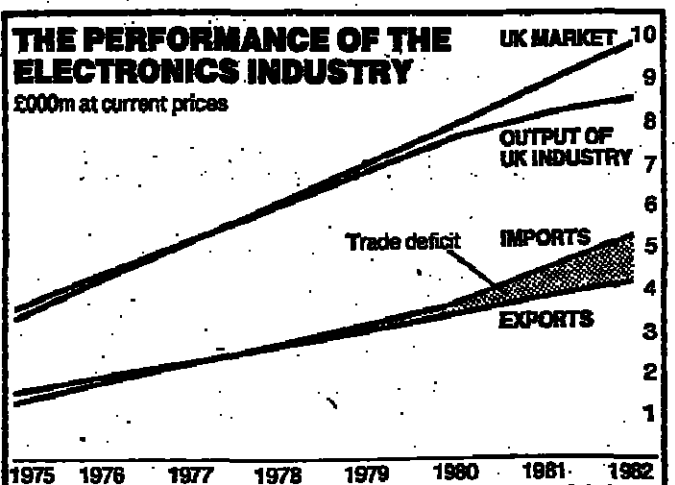
Blueprint to boost electronics

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

Product development and exports by the electronics industry could benefit a great deal from a public procurement policy, the Government has been told by the National Economic Development Council.

A NEDC working party headed by Sir Henry Chilver, published the *Policy for United Kingdom Electronics Industry* in April last year. It has now brought its report up to date and once more emphasized that the Government had a crucial role to play.

It concluded: "The public sector as a whole probably accounts for half the United Kingdom business of United Kingdom companies and procurement practices can have a significant impact on product development strategies and on exports. Fuller and more evident implementation of the



Government's stated policy on procurement is therefore urgent and vital".

The total output of Britain's electronic industry by 1980 was about £7,700m and the industry employed about 500,000 people.

Consumer electronics and information technology was to produce a combined trade deficit of £500m. Employment has dropped since then and the trade deficit has grown.

A public procurement policy,

Chilver maintained was still the key to revitalizing the British electronics, which last year he concluded was in relative decline. He said: "A continuation of current trends would imply a further decline in the United Kingdom share of the world market and an equivalent loss of trade, profit and job opportunities".

In another report from the NEDC published two weeks ago, Sir Iwan Maddock accused defence chiefs of wasting technological innovation and not passing the benefits on to the civil market and also called for a procurement policy. The report, *Civil Exploitation of Defence Technology* concluded: "There may be some who are content to see the UK become a technological colony of large offshore companies who will determine what products are made and where and when and how high or low the national standard of living should be".

After all is said and done

When the affairs of business are over and the last resolution has been made, then is the time to reflect upon a time well spent at the Inn on the Park. It goes without saying that the Inn on the Park is one of London's more elegant meeting places. As a business arena, however, this internationally celebrated hotel at the corner of Hyde Park boasts facilities second to none.

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OTTOMAN BANK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held on FRIDAY, the 27th MAY 1983, in THE QUEEN'S ROOM, THE BALTI EXCHANGE, 14-20 ST. MARY AXE, EC3A 8BU, at 11 a.m. to receive a Report from the Committee with the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1982; to propose a Dividend; and to elect Members of the Committee.

By Article 27 of the Statutes the General Meeting is composed of holders, whether in person or by proxy or both together, of at least thirty shares, who, to be entitled to take part in the Meeting, must deposit their shares and, as may be necessary, their proxies at the Head Office of the Company in Istanbul or at any of the branches, or in London at Dunster House, 3rd Floor, Mincing Lane, EC3R 7DN or in Paris at 7 rue Meyerbeer, 75009, at least ten days before the date fixed for the Meeting.

The Report of the Committee and the Accounts which will be presented to the General Meeting are available to the Shareholders at the Head Office in Istanbul and at the offices in London and Paris.

T. R. STEPHENS
Secretary to the Committee

25th April 1983

RACING

Boutin breaks new ground with L'Emigrant

From Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris

François Boutin, who made the decision to run L'Emigrant yesterday's Poule d'Essai des Poulains, and not near Saturday's 2,000 Guineas, was well rewarded, as the colt won the French classic at Longchamp. For Boutin, it was his first victory in the Poulains, and for the jockey, Cash Asmusen, his first ever win. L'Emigrant, a colt a length to spare over City and Glitters, with the outsider Margouze three-quarters of a length away third, and the English colt Sackford, a further length away fourth. The French favourite, Saint Cyrien, finished a third, and his future as a racehorse was, at the moment, in doubt.

L'Emigrant carried the colours of the Greek shipping magnate Stavros Niarchos to victory for the second consecutive year, as Melyno took the classic last year when trained by the late Francois Mathet. The colt won the line up in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains on May 15, bought for \$360,000 at the Keeneland Select Sales by the Niarchos manager, Sir Philip Payne-Galwey in 1981. L'Emigrant was bred at the Boutin-managed Bedford farm in Kentucky.

For much of the mile contest, L'Emigrant was raced behind his pacemaker, Conteron, who did and excellent job. Asmusen came smoothly through to take up the running just inside the two-furlong marker and the colt was always heading. Crystal Glitters, Sackford, who was a little slow away, looked to have held on for third place until Margouze appeared from nowhere. Asmusen remarked on dismounting: "Well, that went nicely to plan. I am sure he'll stay further, and he will be the best three-year-old I have ever sat on." He then added: "Don't forget, I have been associated with three American champions."



Gordian overcomes a knotty problem in the shape of Neorion in Sandown's Classic Trial

Hermit must come out of shell

By Michael Seely

Steve Cauthen rides Wassil and Pat Eddery Lomond in next Saturday's 2,000 Guineas. These are the latest developments as we enter the first important week of the season. Cauthen gained his first English classic success on Tap on Wood in 1979, but Eddery will be seeking his first triumph in the Guineas on Vincent O'Brien's eleventh hour replacement for Danzatore.

The hermit of Baldyleigh has nursed himself in his handling of the Danzatore affair. O'Brien has played the game of stallion promotion hard and successfully in the past 15 years. He has inevitably meant keeping his cards close to his chest. But on this occasion someone managed to have a look over the trainers' shoulder before he declared his hand.

So, to have denied that Danzatore was working badly only 48 hours before his withdrawal cannot conceivably be regarded as a good exercise in public relations. We all acknowledge and admire O'Brien's professional genius, but his secrecy is becoming obsessive.

Ladbroke's have introduced Lomond into the 2,000 Guineas beting at 10-1. Sackford's half-brother won a maiden race easily at the Curragh as a two-year-old, but disappointed when only third behind his stable companion, Gienal, in the National Stakes at the Curragh. He was a race won by suffering from a throat infection afterwards and certainly proved his well being when beating the four-year-old Patron in the Gladness Stakes at the Curragh earlier this month. Gienal and Danzatore are now point favourites for the Guineas at 11-4. Wassil is third favourite at 9-2.

In direct contrast to O'Brien, both Henry Cecil and Guy Harwood are enjoying their exposure to the glare of the media and the spotlight on Saturday. Cecil's Gucci shoes were dancing as the champion trainer strode busily about the track. The victories of Ivano in the Westbury Stakes and of Count Hilton in the Marcus Berezford Stakes, coupled with that of Diesel's galloping companion, Valiant, at Leicester put Cecil in a happy mood.

The energetic Harwood was also relaxing in the unexpected sunshine after Greville Starkey and Gordian proved to strong for Neorion and Philip Robinson in the last furlongs of the Curragh Classic Trial. Whether Gordian is going to follow in the footsteps of such previous winners as Troy, Henbit and Shergar may be open to question. But Steve Nicolson's Gucci coat certainly deserves full marks for gameness.

The jockeys have been told to go slow for the first furlong or so by the stewards, as the ground by the 10 furlong start was the worst affected by the rain. They certainly carried out their instructions and the race developed onto a three-furlong sprint.

Russian Roubles ran unaccountably, bad and Cock Robin, Polished Silver, Water Idol and Speedy Leave, all launched unavailing challenges. Cock Robin, 2-1 favourite, was ill at ease in the going and the first to come off the bridle. It is unwise to make excuses for berial horses and generally best to take results at their face value. But the ground was so testing and the time of the race so slow, that the only answer must be to hold a watching brief at present.

Gordian may go straight to Epsom without another run. "He doesn't take much getting fit," the trainer said, "and if I decide to give Gordian another race, I would have to find an uncompetitive one for him." Gordian's victory certainly paid a handsome tribute to his five-length Dewhurst Stakes conqueror, Diesel.

2.30 SAXBY CHASE (handicap; £1,338; 2m 74yd) (13 runners)

1. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

2. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

3. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

4. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

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18. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

19. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

20. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

2.30 RAINWORTH HURDLE (selling; £247; 2m) (11 runners)

1. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

2. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

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20. 0000 MOUNT KELLET (C) H. H. 7/20 (14 runners)

2.30 LIXINGTON CHASE (handicap; £1,269; 3m 11yd) (8 runners)

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University Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
"NEW BLOOD" LECTURESHIPS

Applications are invited for the following six lectureships funded under the U.G.C. "New Blood" scheme. Applicants should normally be under 35 years of age. The posts are available from 1st October 1983.

Architecture - Energy in
buildings (Post Ref. 1)

The appointee will join a small, multi-disciplinary team whose current research interest is in the efficient use of energy in buildings. A background in engineering, mathematics or physics would be desirable, with substantial computing experience. Ideally in the field of simulation studies. A knowledge of Building/Architecture would be an advantage, but is not an essential requirement.

Civil Engineering - Hydraulic
Engineering (Post Ref. 2)

Preference will be given to Civil Engineering graduates with special interest in hydraulics, particularly in groundwater resources development, and/or in turbulence and momentum transfer in open channel flow.

Dermatology - Skin Biochemistry
(Post Ref. 3)

The field of work will be molecular biochemical mechanisms underlying the action of hormones in the skin and the variation in expression of the effects in different clones of skin cells. The post is suitable for a scientist trained in the techniques of molecular biology and the successful candidate will be expected to set up and run an independent laboratory as well as working in collaboration with skin physiologists in the department.

Geography - Human Geography
(Post Ref. 4)

The appointment will be in the Department of Geography but associated with the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies, an S.R.C. designated Research Centre, which is attached to the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to develop research on the impact of developments in information technology, this should be relevant to the programme of work on urban and regional change being undertaken in the Centre. Candidates should outline previous research experience and suggest possible future work in the specified area.

Geology - Economic Geology
(Post Ref. 5)

The appointment will be made in the field of economic geology, with special reference to the relationship between the genesis of sulphide ores and the evolution of carbonaceous matter within the sedimentary record. Experience in ore petrology, geochemistry and sediment diagenesis would be relevant.

Virology - (Post Ref. 6)

The vacancy is for a Ph.D., or equivalent, with experience of the techniques of nucleic acid analysis to complement existing work on the viruses associated with infantile diarrhoea and respiratory syncytial (RS) virus in investigating their structure and strain differences. The work is likely to include the use of monoclonal antibodies and, later, cloning selected pieces of nucleic acid into bacteria.

Salary will be on Lecturers' scale: £5,375 - £13,505 per annum (under review), according to age, qualifications and experience.

Further particulars, quoting the post reference, may be obtained from the Deputy Registrar (FP), The University, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications (3 copies), giving the names and addresses of three referees, should be received not later than 31st May 1983.

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY

"New Blood" and Information
Technology Lectureships

Applications are invited for the following Lectureships available from 1 October 1983 under the UGC's New Blood Scheme. The roles of these appointments will be to contribute substantially to research and to do some teaching in the areas indicated.

New Blood Lecturer in Mathematics

Applications for this post in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics should have research interests in the numerical solution of partial differential equations, particularly nonlinear equations, and their application in continuum mechanics.

New Blood Lecturer in Non-Metallic Materials

(Plastic composite processing technology) Applications for this post in the Department of Non-Metallic Materials should have previous research experience in the microstructure characterisation or the processing of thermoplastic composites.

Information Technology Lecturer in Electrical
Engineering and Electronics

(VLSI Design) Applicants should have experience in the design of digital systems, preferably Computer Aided. A knowledge of expert systems and ideas for applications of such in design would be welcome.

In accordance with UGC guidelines, the age limit for "New Blood" appointments is 35, but in exceptional cases an appointment of a particularly well-qualified candidate over 35 may be made. Salaries will be on the Lecturers' scale: £5,375 - £13,505 per annum (under review), but it is not likely that an initial salary of more than £11,105 per annum will be offered (for new blood posts) according to age, qualifications and experience. London Allowance £1,150 per annum is also payable. Applicants are required to contribute to the University's Superannuation Scheme.

Application form and further details from the Personnel Secretary, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3PH, or telephone Uxbridge 37188 extension 49. Closing date: 27 May 1983.

University
College of
Swansea

Lectureships

Applications are invited for the following Lectureships in the Department of Politics. Applicants should preferably be not more than 35. The research area for each post is shown in brackets.

LECTURER IN MODERN FRENCH
HISTORY (Late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century)

LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS (The Use of Probabilistic Methods)

LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY (The effect of high rates of unemployment on social life)

The appointments, which will date from October 1, 1983, will be made at the appropriate point within the Lecturers' scale £5,375-£13,505 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits.

Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office they should be returned by Friday, May 20, 1983.

University of Exeter
Department of Politics
Lectureships in Politics

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Politics. The post is a "New Blood" appointment. Applicants should normally be under 35. The research area for each post is shown in brackets.

LECTURER IN MODERN FRENCH HISTORY (Late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century)

LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS (The Use of Probabilistic Methods)

LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY (The effect of high rates of unemployment on social life)

The appointments, which will date from October 1, 1983, will be made at the appropriate point within the Lecturers' scale £5,375-£13,505 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits.

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University of
Southampton
THE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Politics. The post is a "New Blood" appointment. Applicants should normally be under 35. The research area for each post is shown in brackets.

LECTURER IN MODERN FRENCH HISTORY (Late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century)

LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS (The Use of Probabilistic Methods)

LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY (The effect of high rates of unemployment on social life)

The appointments, which will date from October 1, 1983, will be made at the appropriate point within the Lecturers' scale £5,375-£13,505 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits.

Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office they should be returned by Friday, May 20, 1983.

Department of Physics
"NEW BLOOD" LECTURESHIPS

Applications are invited for a "New Blood" Lectureship in Laser Physics. The post is a "New Blood" appointment. Applicants should normally be under 35. The research area for each post is shown in brackets.

LECTURER IN MODERN FRENCH HISTORY (Late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century)

LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS (The Use of Probabilistic Methods)

LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY (The effect of high rates of unemployment on social life)

The appointments, which will date from October 1, 1983, will be made at the appropriate point within the Lecturers' scale £5,375-£13,505 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits.

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HORIZONS

The Times Guide to career choice

Money for art's sake

"If you are interested in art and you turn out not to be a second Hockney, you can always become a designer". That is still the assumption which bedevils most "careers" thinking about art and design. The two subjects are remorselessly linked in colleges, in careers directories and in people's minds.

It is not necessarily a false association but it is a narrow one. Careers in "art and design" are broader than conventional images may suggest. To make a living in the "art world" can lead to jobs as diverse as high-powered international dealings or therapy with the disabled as well as actually painting or sculpting. And design is just as relevant to industrial management and large scale engineering manufacture as it is to the heady world of, for example, haute couture.

It is in the field of design, that exciting things are now happening for careers. At long last the overall importance of product design is being appreciated in British industry and not a second too early as a succession of enterprises have gone down in the face of better-designed imports from more design-conscious competition.

This seems to be changing. The Prime Minister herself has gone out of her way to stress the importance of design. The Department of Industry is running a Design for Profit campaign to open the eyes of management to the benefits which good designers can bring.

In *The Times* recently, there has been a lively correspondence about the subject, involving educationalists from institutions as diverse as Eton, the University of Salford and the London Business School and Imperial College. All agree on the importance of design, whether in engineering and construction or fashion and advertising.

The moral is clear. Young people with an interest in art and design need to sharpen their understanding of what these actually mean. The fine artists and craftsmen should reflect on where their urge for personal creativity might lead. Those who are attracted to design, meanwhile, need to realize the vast scope of their vocation, extending as it does across fields as diverse as record sleeves and motor cars, armchairs and washing machines.

chines. Most important, perhaps, many who already see themselves as technologists must become aware of their role as designers as well because they cannot be successful in one function without also being good at the other.

Obviously, there is little uniformity in discussing prospects for careers in art and design. As the message about the importance of design sinks in, it is hoped that the opportunities for industrial designers will grow and flourish. Artists and craftsmen meanwhile are likely to have difficulty in making ends meet unless they supplement their work by teaching and lecturing (and part-time opportunities are now much reduced). Alternatively they may find their training to launch into something else.

Edward Fennell on
training and opportunity
in art and design

The trend nowadays is that design courses are seen to be highly vocational whereas art courses are of a more general kind with no specific career outlet. This may not be a bad thing. Art students have a marvelous chance simply to develop their own creativity during, for example, three years of a degree course. As one college of art and design principal said: "No other form of undergraduate study forces you to draw on your own imaginative resources as much as either art or design - and that is a good preparation for a career."

Unfortunately a "good preparation for a career" by no means guarantees a job. A collapsed textile industry, for example, undermines openings for highly qualified textile and fashion designers just as much as for the manual workers of Yorkshire and Lancashire. On the other hand, British designers are being called on to invigorate the fightback by surviving firms. And artists and designers are much more willing to shout about their achievements.

Nevertheless much needs to be done to improve career prospects for artists and designers alike. As David

Sherlock, principal of Winchester School of Art, said: "We have the best system of art and design education in Europe, perhaps in the world, yet that is not evident in our industry and manufacturing. Job prospects in Britain are limited and many of our students have to go abroad to Italy, France and the US for work."

Confirmation of this comes from many of the Paris fashion houses which rely on British-trained designers for their success. And of the 10 designers who make up Milan's famous Memphis partnership, two - George Snowden and Gerard Taylor - are British.

Specialization lies at the heart of the system of training. One-year foundation courses, usually for post-A-level students, give a broad introduction to a number of skills before intense specialization on the subsequent degree. The list of options is long but a few examples demonstrate the range. Manchester Polytechnic has an industrial design course specifically geared to meet the needs of the transport industry. Middlesex Polytechnic has a course to concentrate on graphic information design which prepares students for jobs in television and computer graphics. Manchester Polytechnic's graphics technology course is oriented towards jobs in printing, photography and packaging. Leicester Polytechnic's engineering industrial design course attracts A-level mathematics and scientists.

The training is therefore highly specific - probably why our students have a flying start when they go abroad to work. It is also encouraging that the colleges are able to respond quickly - courses in computer graphics are the latest example - as new technologies emerge. The only problem is that the college system sometimes has a "hot-house effect" which is remote from the icy winds of the British industrial climate. There is bags of creativity but it may be a bit short on practicality.

The message from most employers is that students must become more aware of the constraints in the industrial system within which they will work. There has to be a better bridge between our young artists and designers and their subsequent employers.

University of Exeter

Appointment of Vice Chancellor

The Chancellor of the University of Exeter, Sir Rex Richards FRSE, wishes it to be known that a Joint Committee of Council and Senate seeks a successor to the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Harry Kay CBE, who will retire on or before 30 September 1984.

Would those interested in the particulars of the appointment or wishing to recommend someone for consideration please write in confidence to Sir Rex Richards, c/o Academic Registrar and Secretary, University of Exeter, EX4 4QJ, before the end of May.

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE
CHAIR IN BIOLOGY

The University invites applications for the new post of Professor in Biology, with special interests in Cell or Molecular Biology, in the Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology.

Further particulars (ref 26/83) may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Strathclyde, McCance Building, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ to whom applications should be sent by 31st May 1983.

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

FACULTY OF LAW

LECTURESHIP
IN LAW "NEW BLOOD"

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Law. The post is a "New Blood" appointment. Applicants should normally be under 35. The research area for each post is shown in brackets.

LECTURER IN MODERN FRENCH HISTORY (Late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century)

LECTURER IN MATHEMATICS (The Use of Probabilistic Methods)

LECTURER IN SOCIOLOGY (The effect of high rates of unemployment on social life)

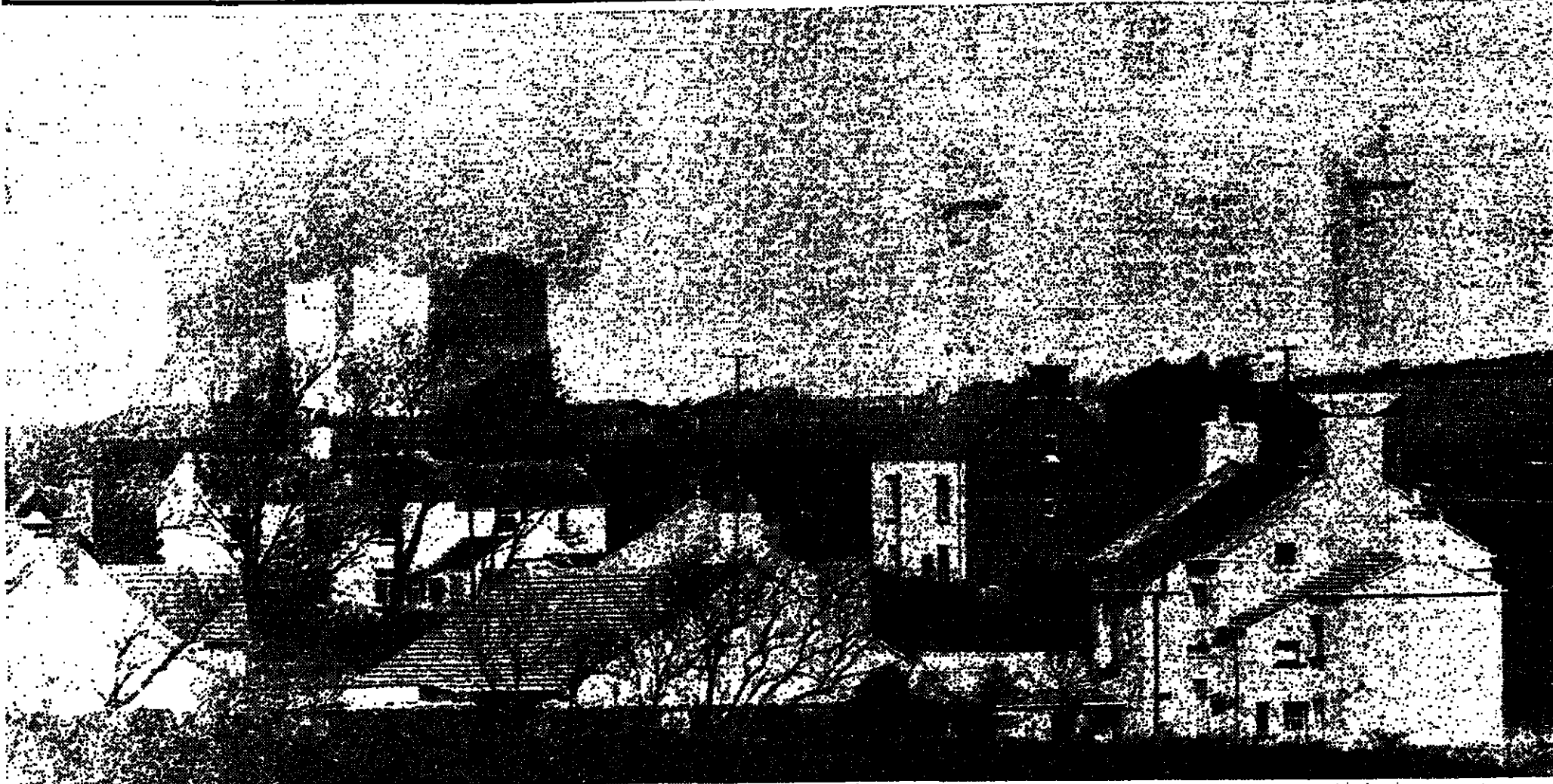
The appointments, which will date from October 1, 1983, will be made at the appropriate point within the Lecturers' scale £5,375-£13,505 per annum together with USS/USPS benefits.

Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office they should be returned by Friday, May 20, 1983.

THE AUSTRALIAN
NATIONAL UNIVERSITYSCHOLARSHIPS FOR PHD
DEGREE COURSES

Persons who hold, or expect to hold, a bachelor degree with at least a second class honours (2:1) or equivalent from a recognized University, are invited to apply for Australian National University PhD Scholarships, available on a wide range of subjects in the Humanities and the Physical, Medical and Biological Sciences.

Scholarships are available to students of the Institute of Advanced Studies, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Science, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Medicine, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Law, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Engineering, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Architecture, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Fine Arts, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Music, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Education, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Business Administration, the Australian National University, Canberra, or to students of the Faculty of Social Work, the Australian 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Steam from the Sellafield cooling towers billowing out over the small coastal town of Seascale near by (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Thirty years on nuclear health fears persist in Cumbria

The Paul Pedersens, father and son, step on to the beach at Ravensglass from their small fishing boat, the Seaspray, carrying boxes of lobsters and flat fish across the sands from which the tide is draining rapidly. They have been checking their creels off the Cumbrian coast since 4 am.

"If what them barmy beggars say is right then I should be glowing like a light bulb", Mr Pedersen junior says. His father adds: "They say the Irish Sea is dangerously contaminated, but there is nothing wrong with him." As he speaks he brandishes a fat and powerfully clawed lobster at me.

He began fishing among the wrecks and shoals off Sellafield more than 20 years ago. His last full body scan at the nuclear plant showed radiation levels that offered the same risk as smoking two cigarettes a year or driving a car 18 miles a week.

The calculations were made by scientists of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Mr Pedersen accepted them as a full answer to the risks of fishing in the Irish Sea.

"The only bad effect we notice", he says, "is that every time there is a scare story about poisoned water the value of our

Against the background of the Sizewell inquiry, Ronald Faux, our Northern Correspondent, visited west Cumbria where nuclear industry has been a fact of life for more than 30 years. He finds that the Sellafield complex of British Nuclear Fuels still generates strong feelings for and against the industry. Nuclear energy is seen to be an essential and acceptably safe source of power by many of the 10,000 people who work there.

Those who do not may regard Sellafield with healthy scepticism but accept that, without it, west Cumbria would become an industrial desert.

catch goes down by two thirds. Then people forget and things return to normal."

Beyond the beach, which in summer is the Pedersens' market place, on the landward horizon the cooling towers of Sellafield send out plumes of steam.

The tall, square-top towers mark the nuclear piles that produce the fissile material for British nuclear bombs. It is that ominous side of nuclear energy, emphasized by the famous Windscale leak, armed guards, secrecy, and uncertainty among the supposed experts that created the doubts against which British Nuclear Fuels is campaigning vigorously.

The doubts are found among medical practitioners. One

males was significantly lower than expected.

A huge public relations exercise has been launched to improve the public image of nuclear power and its peaceful benefits.

The decision to allow the building of Thorpe (the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant) has been accompanied by much investment at Sellafield, turning it into probably the biggest building site in Europe. Up to £50m a year enters the local economy in wages.

But the doubts remain even though many of the doubters have become resigned to living so close to Sellafield — a name that covers British Nuclear Fuels's Windscale and Calder works and not chosen, the company insists, to remove the memories of Windscale leaks and contamination.

"Nuclear power has a lot to live down", one Whitehead skipper said. "It produced the most violent and destructive single explosion ever, its secondary evils are invisible and insidious, and while it is impossible for the man in the street to comprehend in detail, he gets the firm impression that the people who are



Miss Emery: "The danger remains."

supposed to understand are not always agreed."

Mr Bill Badger, of the Friends of the Earth in west Cumbria, said that several years after the inquiry the oxide reprocessing plant had still not been built. He doubted whether it would be.

"Waste from the Magnox stations has to be reprocessed and we recognize that Windscale is the one place where that can be done safely," he said.

"People assume we want to close the plant, but that is not true. It is impossible to shut down something on which probably 100,000 people rely.

Our attitude is one of scepticism towards any further development."

From the Greenpeace headquarters at Barrow-in-Furness, Miss Jean Emery organizes the most militant local action against the import of nuclear waste through the town's dock.

Her group insists that the sea off Sellafield has become dangerously contaminated and that analysis of cancer cases in the county in relation to the distance from Windscale shows a damning pattern.

"If there is not danger", she said, "why did British Nuclear Fuels pay compensation to the families of those who died from leukaemia after the Windscale disaster? The danger remains."

"Why do Japanese standardists insist that no more than 0.6 of a curie of radiation emission a year is allowable from their reprocessing plant, yet Windscale sends 1,000 curies of alpha emitters a year into the Irish Sea?"

British Nuclear Fuels's response was: "There is no discrepancy. One million times nothing will always be nothing. Compared with any other industry, nuclear power has an enviable and excellent safety record."

Letter from Dallas

Image-conscious city where money talks

History has bestowed two unforgettable memories on Dallas — the assassination of President Kennedy, and J. R. Ewing. Both in their different ways have deeply affected the place and given the city an obsession about its image. Right now, there are a lot of people who wish J.R. would get out of town.

A simple white memorial to President Kennedy stands in the city centre and a lot of Dallasites still resent being constantly reminded of such a shameful day. President Kennedy, after all, had no real connexion with Dallas.

Lee Harvey Oswald supposedly did the deed from a small, cluttered room on the fourth floor of the book depository building, a red official-looking structure with lots of dark corridors and gloomy little rooms. There is now talk of turning the room into a Kennedy museum, but not everybody agrees. It might create a negative image.

And not everybody agrees that J. R. Ewing and his evil entourage have been good for Dallas. Some people complain that the image of the city across the world is of a heartless, oil-obsessed town with but one god — money.

In part, the image is accurate. The city is booming, there is a frenetic pace of construction and a palpable sense of excitement. It is on the long drive in from the airport — nothing but offices going up, highways under construction, factories being built. There is electricity in the air — the same feeling of extreme optimism that New York evokes. The difference is that New York does it with culture, Dallas does it with money.

Dallas is determined to be an international city. It brags that its airport is the biggest in the world, bigger than the centre island of Manhattan. The other weekend the mayor threw another of his lavish dinners for a group of ambassadors invited down from Washington for several days of pampered luxury, an exercise that is all part of the international image-building.

Of course, their excellencies wanted to see South Fork Ranch, known in real life as the Box Ranch, first home of the Ewings until the real owner got fed up and told

everybody to pack up and go. The ranch you see on television now is several miles away from the 1,600 rich acres of the Box Ranch, itself about 20 miles out of town.

The nice ambassadors looked a little ridiculous in their blue jeans and Texas hats, all standing in a neat line beneath the first floor and of the season while civic dignitaries clambered around with great airfares of cameras and made nice speeches. After the photographs they all gratefully repaired to the swimming pool area to sample huge quantities of barbecued steaks and cold beers, while a band played softly in the background.

The city is frantically creating a cultural personality. A whole new arts district is under construction where quaint little restaurants and antique stores will mingle around the magnificent newly remodelled theatre, a huge new museum and the new symphony hall. Dallas decided it wanted some culture so it did the natural, obvious thing — it went out and bought some.

Once a year the city hosts probably the biggest fair in the land, where they do it in a manner of crazy things while devouring mountains of traditional delicacies, such as Cokes, "corn dogs", candy floss and pizza slices.

Of course, the civic leaders like you to know their history, to know how the Alamo was fearlessly avenged in the place where the San Jacinto river meets the Buffalo bayou.

There is an aesthetic awareness amid all the panic of building, an awareness kindled in the comfortable embrace of wealth. Sir Henry Moore created the masterpiece of sculpture outside the city hall, itself a building of imposing beauty surrounded by a skyline that is beginning to look a little like New York and Chicago.

And so it continues, stories of money and the images it can buy. One wonders what the other poor folks make of it all from their secluded little homes in the south of the city, just the other side of the tiny Trinity river, where the images are so dreadfully real and not the least bit elusive.

Christopher Thomas

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions

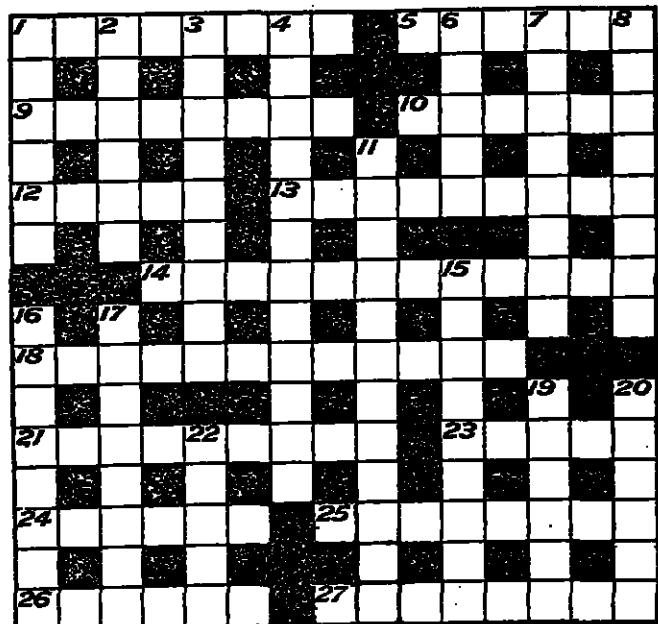
Teamworks: work by the Dundee group of artists and the Dundee Printmakers Workshop, Meadowplace Gallery, 10 Victoria Chambers, Dundee; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 6, closed Tues; (until May 29). Recent paintings, collages and figures by Stan Richards, Chapter Gallery, Concourse Gallery, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff; Mon to Fri 12 to 10, Sat 12 to 4 and 6 to 9, closed Sun; (until May 21).

The First Effort of an Infant Hand: samplers from the museum's collections, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until June 25).

The Great British Teapot (until May 15) and A Lincolnshire Artist: Work by Peter Hancock (until May 22); both at Usher Gallery, Lincoln Road, Lincoln; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.

Private Views: portraits and self-portraits, University of East Anglia Library, Norwich; Mon to Thurs 9am to 10pm, Fri 9 to 8, Sat 9 to 5, closed Sun; (until May 21).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,112



ACROSS

- Most populated part of eg London? (8).
- Tail had got stuck in plant? (6).
- Married one settled in easily managed home? (8).
- What is spiritual in the old guard? (6).
- Lochinvar's fair one? (5).
- Take a risk, giving direction to embezzler? (9).
- Not the original birth? (12).
- Last opportunity to end the Great War? (8, 4).
- Excellent puzzle in place above? (9).
- Subject of the note? (5).
- Wandered with me in the way? (6).
- What the losing boxer gets is embarrassing? (8).
- Cooked and drunk? (6).
- Toboggan about to twist? It's done? (8).

DOWN

- Sir Philip going to Sussex college? (6).
- Born, like Uriah Heep, to be a Dickens character? (6).
- What three witches planned to do, in a word, to meet Macbeth? (9).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No. 16,111 will appear next Saturday

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Sun 2 to 7, (from today until May 27)

Recent works of Roy Abell, RBA Galleries, 69a New Street, Birmingham; Mon to Sat 11.30 to 5, closed Sun (until May 14). Etchings by Stephen Whittle, a selection of original prints from the Royal Academy, 2a Salisbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham; Mon to Fri 10 to 4, Wed 10 to 7.30, closed Sat & Sun (until June 3).

The Still Picture Show: Photographs by Stuart Roy, Dudley Museum and Art Gallery, 3 St James's Road, Dudley; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (until May 21).

Indian Drawings, selected by Howard Hodgkin, Central Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun (until May 21).

Carpets and hangings by Mike and Claire Booth, Rozelle House, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until May 12).

Man and Nature: Wildlife painting by Robert Davidson, Blackheath, SE3; daily 10 to 6; (from today until May 7).

Craftsmen of Distinction: Work by Eleanor Bartlemann, Susan Hensel, Michael Hebban, Peter Layton and Sally Lomas, Charles de Temple Gallery, 51.5, Jermyn Street, SW1; Mon to Fri 11 to 5, Sat 11 to 1, closed Sun; (from today until May 31).

Talks, lectures
Art and Architecture in Ancient Macedonia, by Professor Manolis Andronikos, Natural Philosophy Lecture Theatre, St Markar Drive, Aberdeen, University 5.15.
Woven Gardens: Rugs of the Middle East, by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Music
Haydn Scumble and the Trenchery Male Voice Choir, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.
Organ recital by Jonathan Leonard, Newcastle Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Progress in committee on the Finance Bill.
Lords (2.30): Miscellaneous Financial Provisions Bill, second reading. Debate on the water industry.

US summer time
The United States yesterday changed to Daylight Saving Time; this means the time difference between London and New York or Washington is now five and not six hours.

River boats
The London Tourist Board has produced a leaflet, It's a Pleasure Boating on the Thames, giving information on services and cruises from Westminster, Richmond and Tower Piers.

Available from Tourist Information Centres, or by phoning a special river boat information number: 01-750-4812

Retail Price Index: 327.9.
London: The FT Index closed down 4.0 on Friday at 688.0.

New York: The Dow Jones Industrial average closed up 8.05 on Friday at 1196.30.

Nature notes

Nesting is under way. Blackbirds and song-thrushes are on eggs in their deep nests, with just their beak and tail showing above the rim. They sit tight, but fly off with a skittering cry if an intruder comes too close. Wrens are building the cock wren makes several domed nests of grass and leaves, and the hen chooses one of them and lines it with soft feathers. She usually lays six minute, red-spotted eggs. New arrivals from the South include house-martins, wheeling and braking above the house-tops with a flash of their white rumps, and grasshopper warblers, which have become much more common in neglected, bushy patches of countryside in the last few years. On the moors, blackcock gather for their annual "lek", a communal ritual of fighting and mating. The males spread their tails in a broad fan, and jump up and down in front of their rivals.

Trees are still coming into leaf rather slowly. Horse-chestnuts are the most striking, with their brilliant green leaves and their flower-sprays already forming. Oak and beech are sprouting cautiously, but under the oaks, bluebells are coming into their full glory, the colour of summer skies.

DJM

Anniversaries

Births: Oliver Cromwell, Huntingdon, 1599; John Keble, Fairford, Gloucestershire, 1792; Walter de la Mare, Charlton, Kent, 1873; Guglielmo Marconi, Bologna, 1874; Wolfgang Pauli, physicist, Nobel laureate, 1945, Vienna, 1900; William Cowper died at East Dereham, Norfolk, 1800. Today is Anzac Day: on this day the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps landed at Gallipoli, 1915.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.85	1.77
Austria Sch	22.10	26.20
Belgium Fr	76.75	74.75
Canada \$	1.97	1.89
Denmark Kr	14.05	13.35
Finland Mk	8.25	8.33
France Fr	11.79	11.24
Germany DM	3.949	3.749
Greece Dr	135.00	125.00
Hongkong \$	10.90	10.35
Ireland Pt	1.259	1.19
Italy Lira	2320.00	2220.00
Japan Yen	383.00	363.00
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.22
Norway Kr	11.52	10.92
Portugal Esc	169.00	149.00
South Africa Rd	2.04	1.87
Spain Ps	213.59	202.50
Sweden Kr	12.85	11.45
Switzerland Fr	3.27	3.16
USA \$	1.60	1.54
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.25	1.13

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency transactions.

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Roads

London and South-east M1: Eastbound diversion overnight between junctions 10 and 10A (Luton). M3: Lane closures between junctions 10 (Highwater) and 4 (Frimley). A16: Temporary signals at Thurridge, Herts. A322: Only one lane southbound at junction with New Road, Bagshot. Midlands and East Angles: M1: Lane closures at junction 16 (Northampton); slip-roads closed except exit. A16: Temporary signals at Southey, between Downham Market and Ely, Norfolk. A47: Temporary signals at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. North: A19: Lane closures from Low Hills bridge to Jackson Mill, Co Durham; slip-roads closures and diversions. A58: Manual traffic controls at Lazonby crossroads, NW Cumbria. Wales and West: A38: Lane closures on Exeter to Plymouth, at Marsh Mills viaduct. A38: Lane closures on Liskeard by-pass. M25: Lane closures between junctions 23 and 24, near Bridgewater, Somerset. Scotland: M8: Roadworks at junction 13 (Preston). A82: Single lane traffic with temporary lights E of Ballachulish bridge, Argyllshire, diversions.

The papers

"The secret diaries of Hitler's secret lover, Eva Braun, have been found in a secret compartment of her secret handbag", says the Daily Mirror. "A London fashion expert, who is also a director of Times Newspapers, said... the handbag is undoubtedly genuine... (She) tells in revealing, passionate detail of the stolen moments she shared with her famous lover as she strolls along the beaches at Dunkirk... the weekends in Warsaw, Kiev and Paris... Hitler's tears at the news of the Russian bombing of Coventry, Plymouth, London, Leningrad, Moscow, Clydebank, Birmingham, Rotterdam...".

"The Daily Mail finds the high salary and substantial pension enjoyed by senior officials of the National Trust extremely disturbing. 'Where charities are concerned, especially those supported by the subscriptions of humble people, a certain frugality should be observed — and seen to be observed.'"

"The decision to ban all lead in petrol by 1990 is the biggest single breakthrough in pollution control since the Clean Air Act, 1956, generation ago", the Observer says yesterday. It praises the Royal Commission's report as "masterly", effectively doing what the Law Commission failed to do three years ago.

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 8LN 263982 (winner comes from London); £25,000: 2SV 251495 (South Yorkshire); £25,000: 8WN 521376 (London, Borough of Newham).

YESTERDAY Highest day temp: North, 16; South, 15; West, 14; East, 13; London, 12; Lowest day temp: North, 10; South, 9; West, 8; East, 7; London, 6.

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Weather

A depression will remain to the SW of the British Isles.

London, SE, England, Midlands: Sunny intervals, showers developing, heavy at times; wind mainly SE, moderate; max temp 12 or 13C (54 or 55F).

East Angles, E, NW, central N England, N Wales: Rain clearing, sunny intervals, showers developing, heavy at times; wind E, fresh, veering SE, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Showers, heavy and prolonged at times; a few sunny intervals; wind E or SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 12 or 13C (54 or 55F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, SW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Becoming cloudy, outbreaks of rain, heavy for a time; wind NE or E, moderate or fresh, locally strong; max temp 8 or 9C (46 or 48F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray: Fine. NE Scotland: Dull and misty, occasional drizzle, coastal fog patches; wind NE, moderate, increasing to strong; max temp 8 or 9C (46 or 48F).

Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle; wind NE, moderate or fresh, locally strong at first; max temp 5 or 6C (41 or 43F).

South, light or moderate sea moderate becoming slight. Strait of Dover, English Channel (W), St George's Channel Irish Sea: Wind E to SE, moderate to fresh, occasionally strong in Irish Sea; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 5.46 am. Sun sets: 5.13 pm. Moon sets: 5.53 am. Full Moon: April 27.

Lighting-up time
London 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Bristol 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Cardiff 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Exeter 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Glasgow 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Liverpool 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Manchester 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Newcastle 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Nottingham 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Oxford 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Plymouth 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Reading 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Southampton 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Swansea 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Tyneside 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. Wolverhampton 8.45 pm to 5.13 am. York 8.45 pm to 5.13 am.

Yesterday
C F C F
Belfast 11.10 50 Glasgow 9.48
Birmingham 11.10 50 Inverness 8.48
Blackpool 11.10 50 Jersey 8.48
Bristol 11.10 50 London 11.10 50
Cardiff 11.10 50 Manchester 11.10 50
Cork 11.10 50 Newcastle 11.10 50
Dundee 11.10 50 Nottingham 11.10 50
Edinburgh 11.10 50 Oxford 11.10 50
Exeter 11.10 50 Plymouth 11.10 50
Glasgow 11.10 50 Reading 11.10 50
Liverpool 11.10 50 Southampton 11.10 50
Manchester 11.10 50 Swansea 11.10 50
Newcastle 11.10 50 Tyneside 11.10 50
Nottingham 11.10 50 Wolverhampton 11.10 50
Oxford 11.10 50 York 11.10 50

London
Yesterday: Temp max 7 am to 7 pm, 10C (50F) min 7 pm to 7 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 7 pm, 78%. Rain: 7 pm to 7 am, 0.2 in. Wind: 7 pm to 7 am, 10 mph. Sea: 7 pm to 7 am, 100 m. Fog: 7 pm to 7 am, 100 m. Ice: 7 pm to 7 am, 100 m.

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